THURSDAY 26 DECEMBER 1996

3△RGAINS

Your complete guide, page 7

A single flake of snow falling on the London Weather Centre dealt a blow to the bookies who were already reeling from shelling out £92,000 to punters who had laid money on the Spice Girls topping the Yuletide The arrival of the solitary flake on a rooftop in London's Clerkenwell was all that was needed to mark yesterday as Britain's first white Christmas in 20 years, Both Ladbrokes and William Hill will today start paying out around £100,000 to thousands of punters cashing in on the windfall. The only ques-

tion is whether the winners re-

be clutching what could be a fairly valuable Christmas bonus. There's not a sign of snow

on the ground, but it definitely

is a white Christmas. People

have been asking: 'Does it have to stick?' 'Does it have to be in

certain places?' But the fact is

that at least one flake of snow

on the London Weather Cen-

tre roof equals a white Christ-

mas. By all accounts there

Ladbrokes has lost the season-

al flutter since it started the "fun

bet than in any previous year.

James Sexton, a public relations

consultant who gave 1,300 ients Christmas presents of a

The day was marked by record supermarket spending, British Telecom's busiest day of the year

and Heathrow's quietest.
 In Northern Ireland, Christ-

mas revellers set a world record

for a single day's trading by

Lisburn, Co Antrim, on Monday, spending almost £1m.

The bumper total marks the

rgest food takings for any

M&S on a single day anywhere in its world-wide chain. Andrew

Keating, manager of the store,

said people started queuing be-

fore 7am, when the store

opened, and were still arriving

when it closed - 15 hours later.

Ireland and the Caribbean.

BT was expecting an increase

of 10 per cent on the 47,229,687

calls made last year on the

25th when 33 million calls were

local, 13 million regional and

just over a million internation-

al. The average call length was

41,000 passengers passed

through the arrival and depar-

working day.

to 2-1 on Christmas Eve.

It is only the third time that

wasn't much more."

"I hope they won't be throwing their slips away." said Simon Clare, a spokesman for Ladbrokes. "They'll be looking out of their window and thinking: 'No way', when in fact they will

alise their good fortune.

fuse

There was a second of the seco

10.75

12.0

اخراك

Astroi

1.00

. . . . App. 210

1.05.

15.45

100

 $\pm 10^{10^{10}}$

.

or and

Independent writers on the moments

that made 1996

The single flake of snow that brought a white Christmas windfall

Snow-go: Mountain bikes, courtesy of Santa, were given a thorough testing in the snow on the Yorkshire moors yesterday, as London had its first white Christmas for 20 years

Blair targets Tory funds

Lord Nolan to be asked to investigate controversial donations to party coffers

The issue of Conservative Party funding will be referred to the Nolan Committee on Standards in Public Life if Tony Blair wins the next election.

There has been considerable disquiet and anxiety on both sides of the Commons for many years about the way in which the Tories have raised

Christmas bet" in 1964. And this funds, year it took more money for the Donations have included £50,000 from Time Chee-bwa, The odds started at 12-1 last a 59-year-old shipping tycoon chosen by the Chinese Com-January, fell to 10-1 at the beginning of December and then munist Party to head Hong Kong's first post-colonial gov-ernment; £250,000 from Mo-Graham Sharpe, spokesman for William Hill, described the hamed Al Fayed before the 1987 general election; and £440,000, later found to have snow fall and Spice Girls' No 1 as a: "double whammy". The biggest winner in the capital was

been stolen, from fugitive businessman Asil Nadir. Ann Taylor, Shadow Leader

election, there will have to be hide?" a thorough overhaul of party financing, and it will be for the Nolan Committee to make the

initial inquiry." Last May, Mr Blair asked John Major to widen the remit of the Nolan Committee, "so over, all sorts of muck will that the funding of all political parties could be looked at in a

proper and impartial manner." Refusing that request, the Prime Minister told him that the matter had already been investigated by the Commons Home Affairs Committee, and that was

But Mr Blair will not leave it at that, if elected. He told Mr Major that if the governing party rejected the demand for

impartial investigation, "the in-

of the Commons, told The evitable question that everyone Committee that he would not when he was lobbying for an end ists connected with 76 compa-

ernment next spring when he want this country to continue as will be ready for fresh meats Senior Labour sources believe that, "once the stone is turned

crawl out." While the 1994 Home Affairs Committee inquiry was kept on a tight leash by the inbuilt Conservative majority, a minority report by Labour MP Chris Mullin pulled no punches in its description of the sleaze that

then Conservative Party chair-

tions to the Conservative could be exposed by a thorough public investigation. Labour refuses all foreign donations, but Sir Norman Fowler,

want to support a free enterprise party However, the Mullin Report was far more critical. It quoted a former Tory party treasurer, Lord McAlpine, talking of offshore accounts, and recalled a 1993 Independent report that Octav Botnar, a former head of Nissan UK, had in the early 1980s "channelled large dona-

Party through an off-shore bank account in Jersey." The report added: "Botnar began his association with the man, told the Home Affairs Conservatives in the 1970s

Independent yesterday: "After the will ask is what it has got to want to spurn gifts from people to the quota system which re-nies which have between them who may well have business in-stricted the volume of Japanese Lord Nolan is scheduled to terests in this country [and] cars that could be imported into £17.4 million to the Conservafinish looking into local gov- perhaps take the view that they the UK ... Mr Botnar is now wanted in the UK on allegations that he was involved in a huge tax fraud.

The Mullin Report also cited Independent reports about donations made through covert companies, used to disguise the destination of the cash, and other bodies that were used to "launder" gifts.

peerages and 82 knighthoods have been given to industrial-

It also touched on the most difficult allegation, of "a relationship between political donations and honours", saving Between the election of Mrs Thatcher in 1979 and the 1993 New Year's honours, 18 life

that control them.

sations

vatised companies; donations from British-domiciled foreign businessmen who receive generous tax treatment; and the election-time availability of prime-site advertising billboards, and the Conservative Government's treatment of the tobacco and brewing industries

But Mr Mullin also drew

believed to have about £20m to spend on the next election. The secrecy of Conservative over the same period donated funding is so great that even tive Party and its front organimembers of the party's Board of Finance are kept in the dark about where the money comes links between donations and pri-

After the last election, the Conservatives were reported

to have a £19m deficit. They are

from, and where it goes.
In evidence to the Home Affairs Committee, Eric Chalker, a member of the Conservative Board of Finance between 1989 and 1993, said that "over £67m of expenditure was recorded by Conservative Central Office in that time, but nobody had to account for one penny of it."

Why did the blue-eyed woman with long black hair blow herself up and kill two others at midnight mass?

Marks & Spencer store. More than 30,000 people piled into M&S at Sprucefield, outside Bonn

> A Christmas Eve service in a Frankfurt church ended in carnage when a woman blew herself up, killing herself and two of the congregation. German police issued a photograph yesterday of the severed head of a woman, with blue eyes and long black hair, believed to be responsible for the at-

tack. She appears to have left no note. Yesterday, as investigators sifted through Christmas Day was BT's busiest day of the year - and yesthe church and heard the testimonies of terday's dialling looked set to shocked witnesses, the only clue was a misbeat last year's total of nine milshapen torso and the unknown head blastlien hours' worth of calls around ed clear of the body. What lay inside that the world, and in particular head to ordain the extinction of three lives to Australia, Canada, the US, New Zealand, the Republic of may never be known.

The suspect, aged about 30, was thought to have detonated two hand-grenades strapped to her body, just as the Lutheran congregation began to sign the first hymn during the late-night service. Two sisters, aged 59 and 61, who were sitting near her, died instantly. Thirteen people were injured, including a mother and her 12-year-old daughter, who were in critical condition in

12 minutes, compared to hospital last night. the usual 2-to-5 minutes of a Investigators were confident that the attack was not linked to terrorism or politics. Meanwhile, Heathrow air-The evidence indicates that she was disport was experiencing its quiturbed and wanted to kill herself in a specetest day of the year. Staff enjoyed a break as a mere

tacular action," said a police spokesman. The suspect entered the small church in the working class suburb of Sindlingen, shortly after the pastor opened the service at 1 lpm. She sat in the third pew from the back, and although it was warm inside, she did not remove her coat. Witnesses recall seeing her sitting still, with her face shrouded by a scarf, her eyes apparently fixed on

the Christmas tree next to the pulpit.
The grenades went off as the 70-strong congregation rose to sing, 15 minutes into



Aftermath: Splintered pews and debris in the aisle of the church Photograph: AP

church recalled hearing a muffled bang behind them. By the time they had swung around, the orderly rows in the back had hymn sheets littered the floor. The pews broken bodies. The red carpet in the aisle

with charred human remains. The worshippers, mostly local people who knew each other well, fled in panic from the church, only to run back, fearing that the attack had come from outside. "At this point we can only speculate about

become unrecognisable. Crumpled blue had been reduced to splinters, covered with was torn up, with blood-soaked garments lying scattered in the middle. A pair of twisted spectacles had been propelled across the half. And the white walls were splattered

the cause of this criminal act," said Manfred Feist, the city's police spokesman. "The evidence indicates that she was disturbed and

wanted to kill herself in a spectacular action."

Frankfurt's police chief, Wolfhard Hoffmann, said: "I have no idea who could have done such a thing on a day like this. We are completely baffled."

A baby boy born on Christmas Eve froze to death while his homeless mother wandered through the German city of Goettingen looking for a warm place to stay, police said yesterday.

Wrapped in a blanket, the boy was cold and lifeless when his 28-year-old mother finally reached a homeless shelter to escape the icy night, a spokesman said. She had given birth only hours earlier in

a deserted house in the university city and

the boy at first seemed healthy, she told

A doctor who burried to the shelter could only pronounce the infant dead and determine there were no signs of any violence on the corpse, the spokesman said.

QUICKLY

Queen looks forward In traditional Christmas speeches yesterday the Queen urged people not to dwell on the past but to look forward to the future, while the Archbishop of Canterbury looked back on some of the tragic events of the Page 2

Bishop's protest The Bishop of Lincoln refused to preach his Christmas sermon in his own cathedral vesterday The Rt Rev Robert Hardy's stration of the struggles between the cathedral's dean. Dr Brandon Jackson, and almost everyone he works with.

Settlers defiant Defiant Jewish settlers, angry at the prospect of a peace deal between Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat, plan to flood Hebron with thousands of sympathisers. They want to resist the redeployment of Israeli troops from the city.

Sporting best In tomorrow's Independent we publish a 20-page special sports section with all the best of the Boxing Day action.

CONTENTS The Broadsheet

Business & City ...19 Foreign News6 Home News 2-4 Review of Year ...9-17 Sales Guide7 Sport 20-26 TV & Radio 25

quascutum

TOMORROW **UP TO 50% OFF ORIGINAL PRICES**

100 Regent Street, London.

9-13 Brompton Road, Knightsbridge. 38 Park Lane, Meadowhall Centre, Sheffield.

24 St Ann's Square, Manchester.

the service. Worshippers at the front of the

Weather 2

Nurses facing death charge said to be well

Two British nurses accused of murdering an Australian colleague in Šaudi Arabia have told a British embassy official they are tired but are being treated

The British consul Lawson Ross visited Deborah Party, 41, from the Midlands, and Lucille McLauchlan, 31, from Scotland, for the first time on Christmas Eve. Mr Ross arranged for the two women to speak to their families over the phone and discussed details of legal representation with them.

The access to the women came after 48 hours of intense diplomatic pressure following their arrest after Foreign Office efforts failed to secure their release. They spent Christmas Day in Dhahran Central Prison and could face public beheading if found guilty of murder, although sources said the death penalty would be unlikely.

A spokesman for the Foreign Office said embassy officials would be putting them in touch with a number of legal experts in Dhahran. The two Britons have been formally charged with the murder of Yvonne Gilford on 11 December. Human rights activists say the Saudi record on justice is one of the worst in the world. Almost 70 people - none of them European - have been beheaded this year alone. It is the form of execution regularly used in mur-

Miss Gilford was found dead in her room at the King Fahd Military Medical Complex in Dhahran, where all three women worked. The 55-year-old senior theatre nurse had been stabbed four times, battered with a hammer and smothered. She moved to Saudi Arabia six months ago from South Africa because she thought it was a safer country.

■ Nursing unions in Scotland said they had no record of the nurse named as Lucille McLauchlan and there was no indication of where in Scotland she may have originated.

A report that a 31-year-old nurse called Lucille McLauchlan was dismissed from a Dundee hospital where she was training in May this year was confirmed last night in a state-Hospitals. But the statement added: "Dundee Teaching Hospitals have no knowledge of any link between this person and any events in Saudi Arabia."



Splashing out: Swimmers braving the chill for their traditional Christmas Day dip in the Serpentine in London's Hyde Park Photograph: Emma Boam

Queen skirts round Dunblane controversies

Kate Watson-Smyth and Clare Garner

people not to dwell on the past but to look forward to the future, while the Archbishop of Canterbury looked back on some of the tragic events of the year and called for a return to Christian values.

In her traditional Christmas message, broadcast from Sandringham, Her Majesty hailed President Nelson Mandela as an example of "how to accept the facts of the past without bitter-

"His example is a continuing inspiration to the whole Commonwealth and to all those everywhere who work for peace and reconciliation," she said. The address came at the end

of another troubled year for the Royals, as the Queen headed a family gathering minus her sons' ex-wives and warned against recriminations over personal or political problems.

"Each year brings its share of difficulties for many families," the Queen noted. This year has, I know, been no exception: fered bereavement of a tragic and shocking kind," she added, in an apparent reference to the Dunblane massacre in

The Queen appeared to skirt around controversy sparked by Prince Philip last week, when he said British laws banning most handguns, introduced since the sacre, were an over-reaction and guns were no more dangerous than cricket bats.

"At such times, it is tempting for all of us, especially those who suffer, to look back and say 'If only," she said. "But to look back in that way is to look down

In his Christmas Day sermon at Canterbury Cathedral, Dr George Carey urged people to face up to their spiritual needs as well as material ones.

"In our society, that feels at times so adrift from its moral, historical and institutional roots, I detect an increasing desire in people to find a spiritual home," he said. We have seen it expressed

this year, in the response to the killings at Dunblane and to the murder of Philip Lawrence. 'It has been there too in the debates on morality and the call for our Millennium Celebra-

tions to be something much

more than a trade fair or a street He urged the congregation to embark on a "spiritual journey towards God" to find the fulfilment they were looking for. In Rome, Pope John Paul Christmas in 55 languages but said the spirit of the nativity was marred by tensions in the Holy Land and international indif-

ference to the tragedy in Africa.
In his Urbi et Orbi (to the city and the world) blessing and message, the 76-year-old Pontiff said Christmas meant not being resigned to violence and injustice but to strive to overcome hatred and rancour and return to dialogue.

The Pontiff, who this year did not celebrate a Christmas Day mass for health reasons, spoke to thousands of people gathered under dark skies in a rainy St Pe-

"The echo of the songs of Christmas must travel much farther," he said. "It must resound beyond walls where the. clash of arms is still heard, shattering the spell of peace brought by this holy day." The Pope, celebrating his

19th Christmas season as leader of the world's 960 million Roman Catholics, said that while the past year had brought peace to Bosnia, Guatemala and elsewhere, it was elusive in many

The Pontiff, who has suffered from a series of health problems, celebrated a solemn midnight mass in St Peter's Basilica. 12 hours before his address.

Holidays without pay rise by 20% in four years

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

The number of people working without paid holidays has inreased by almost a fifth since 1992, according to a Commons library analysis of Government

Ian McCartney, Labour emlovment spokesman, vesterdav used the analysis to condemn Government obstruction of the European working time directive, which would give employ ees the right to three weeks paid holiday each year.

"It is a disgrace that ministers are denying millions of people the right to a paid day off, whilst they enjoy a Christmas break themselves," he said. The Commons is on Christmas holidays until 13 January.

According to the Commons library analysis of the official Labour Force Survey, the number of people without paid holiday entitlement has risen from 1,975,000 to 2,358,000 since 1992, representing 10.7 per cent of the British workforce. If Northern Ireland is included. the overall proportion rises to just over 11 per cent.

Mr McCartney said that more than half of the 424,000 men working part-time get no paid holiday.

party of the family, the Tories are preventing many families from spending a proper holiday together, simply because their bread winner is not entitled to

paid time off. Not giving staff time off increases stress and damages performance at work." "Britons already work the longest hours in Europe, often for the lowest pay. Without a paid holiday, many people are forced to work not just anti-social hours, but on holidays as well, just to make ends meet. It's about time we all had a rest from this hypocritical Tory goverument and its sweat shop

Following a ruling by the European Court, insisting on British implementation of the Working Time Directive, the Government is currently consulting business and industry before introducing legislation.

There is a suspicion at Westminster that the new law might be delayed until after the election, enabling the Conservatives to use it as a campaign weapon, arguing that Labour favours the job losses that would allegedly esult from its introduction.

Labour Health spokeswoman Tessa Jowell yesterday issued a report showing the extent to which the Government has distanced itself from the management of the National Health Service - with details of 50 key areas that are no longer being monitored by Whitehall. It is now commonplace for

n Dorrell, the Secre of State for Health, to answer many factual Commons questions with the reply that the information requested is not held "centrally" by the Government.

significant shorts

Yeltsin vows to pay overdue

Addressing the nation for the first time since returning to the Kremlin on Monday after his recovery from heart surgery, President Boris Yeltsin yesterday pledged to pay back-wages and to "awaken" sluggish bureaucrats who have failed to collect the

necessary tax revenues. Mr Yeltsin said in a radio address that it was essential that the government start paying state workers and retirees who have gone months without their regular cheques. "I know how hard life is for Russian families," he

Woman found dead in cell

A young woman has been found dead in her cell at a jail where five inmates have committed suicide in the past 15 months, it was disclosed

Vale Prison, Stirling, into the death, which happened on Christmas Eve. The body of 22-year-old Yvonne Gilmonr, from Glasgow, was found in her cell at the prison's Bravo block at 11pm. It is understood that prison bosses are treating the death as suicide. Earlier this year prison inspectors issued a damning report on Cornton Vale following a series of deaths there.

Ms Gilmour was serving a three-month sentence imposed at Glasgow Sheriff Court on 8 December for assault, shoplifting and breach of the peace.

House fire kills mother

Police are investigating a "suspicious" house fire in which a young mother died

early yesterday. The 34-year-old woman, who has not been named, died when the fire broke out at her family's semi-detached home in the Bushbury area of Wolverhampton, West Midlands, shortly after 2am. A 33-year-old man and two children escaped and were being treated in hospital.

£15m revamp for 'poor' housing estate

A run-down housing estate, with "high levels" of poverty, has been given a £15m Christmas present which will include a new swimming poul and fitness centre.
Some £2.5m over five years

will come from the Government's Single Regeneration Challenge Fund, with £4m from Oxford City Council and £5m from the Housing Corporation and the Oxford Citizen's Housing Association. The balance will be paid by private companies and other organisations. Work is set to start in the new year.

IRA warning

Prison officers in Northern Ireland have been told to righten personal security after an IRA bomb warning. The alert came when the

IRA claimed to have left a bomb under a prison officer's car at the Maze prison, Lisburn, County Antrim. No An immediate investigation device was found, however, has been launched at Cornton the caller said the bomb had the caller said the bomb had either failed to explode or had fallen off the vehicle.

Britons to walk on Arctic sea

Two British explorers are hoping to become the first men to walk unsupported across the frozen Arctic Ocean. Dr Stephen Martin and David Mitchell plan to begin their trek in the spring.

Hauling supply sledges weighing 375lbs, they hope to raise £1m for the David Shepherd Conservation Foundation, which saves large

RIP: Marine rests in pub

Friends of former Royal Marine Kenny Brown yesterday carried out his final wish by spreading his ashes outside the pub he loved best. Bruce Carnall, manager of the Stanhope Hotel in South Shields, said that Mr Brown, 46, who died of pneumonia on 16 December, "wanted his ashes scattered so that every time it rains, people willtrample him through the bar".

THE INDEPENDENT ABROAD

AustraSch40	N'lands F15.00
BelgrumBFr80	haly L4,500
CamenesPes300	Madeira Esc325
Cyprus CE1.20	Malta 43 cents
Denmark Okr18	NorwayNig20
tristh Resp45p	Portugal Esc325
FranceFr14	Spain Pts300
Germany DM4.5	SwedenSkr21
GreeceDr450	Sentzerland . Str4,00
LuxembourgLF60	USA\$3.00

OVERSEAS SUBSCREPTIONS Ar mail, 13 weeks: Europe E110,75; Zone 1 (Mod East, America, Africa and India) £1,84.08; Zone 2 (Far East and Australessa) £206.70. To order, please send List to 43 Affirentous Landon £14 9TR or telephone 0171 538 8288. Credit cards welcome. BACK ISSUES

With up to £6,000 cashback, you won't be stuffed after Christmas.

Here's a simple way to make the excesses of Christmas easier to digest. Move your mortgage to TSB and we'll give you up to £6,000 cashback. This should



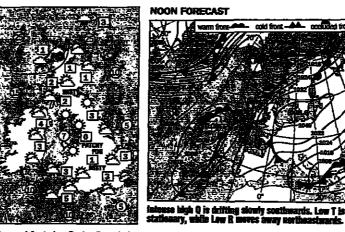
take care of a few bills and leave you with enough left over to bit the sales. So take up the challenge now, call TSB PhoneBank free on the number below for a quotation.

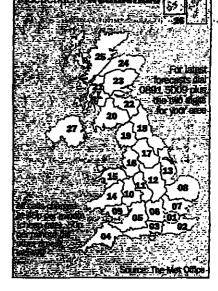
Mortgage Quotation Line

To obtain £6 000 cashback, a mortgage of £142,000 and three elegible incurance products are required, used on an endowment mortgage of £40,000 on a property valued at £60,000 reparable offer 25 years (300 monthly payments) to finance a home purchase coughs (make aged 27 and female aged 25 years). Monthly payments at 1581's standard variable rate, currently £25% (APR 75%) would be £214.48. Total like (LAP): £112,738. APR and TAP, include typical legal less: £110 Examples assumes TSB Property Plus TSB MortgageSure (sometime minimum term 1). era Policy frame been falten and a cash sam of \$1,695 has been taken as an alternging to a one year disc

YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON I

Weather forecast





	Sun rises Sunseis	:	8.06 15.57		Moon rises Moon sels	:	18.	00 42			AIR	QUALITY	<u>.</u>
	: 1763	Detay	1 24 75) James Landson	f 18 51	Herita .	6 27 61	Picode	1 20 88	Stockholm	1 -5 23	Zurich	a 327
	1 1457	Corto	c 1763	43a '		Matta	: 20 68	Mes	c 1254	Singapore .	c 31 88	-	s 16 61
		Copunications	c -2 28	Jakasta	r 27 E1	موشقا	1 16 61	"Rest link	c / 45	Second	E 843	The Line Co.	6 3 48
	\$ -523	Calegon	s -\$27	-	2 15 59	Majora	1 17 63	Tier Others	1 23 73	*Stations	s 31 88		1-18 1-1
ligrado	0 32	Carlottenes	c 18 64		4 14 57	Media	1 745	Her Delta	12 13 64	"Sam Francisco	1 13 55	Vienn	1 -5 23
ial.	f 20 58	*Chicago	. 1 442	"Honolel	2 24 75	إسمطيمها	3 -5 23	-	1 24 75	Subburg	a -421	Yesten	a 1450
	1 11 52	Canadabasea	£ 15 61	Reng Rong	2 21 70	Tion Angelou	8 15 59	-	W 16 61	Norma	E 15 59	Thomas	g -377
whethe	1 29 84	Caracas	1 26 79	Helshild	# -18 4	وسنتفا	E 745	- Identific	1 25 77	Rysch .	s 20 GE	Valencia	1 16 61
S	s 32 90	Case Term	s 25 77	Harme	1 26 79	United	s 11 52	phonish	£5'23	The de James	c 29 84	7eeis	c 20 64
ingia	f 22.72	*Colgary	a-33-72		1661	"lee	12772	House .	g-16 Z	Shadee	1 17 63	Toronto	1 3 3
die:	1 20 68		23 /3	Gerena	c 4 39	Las Palessa	s 21 7 0	*Houseal	s 6 12	Reptigerit,	1 543	Taligo	, 94
hom	s 17 63		s 1391	Fonchel	E 18 84	Kanda Lampa	c 38 86	Marrison.	E 30 B6	Program	5 -8 16	Tiese	6 43
		2		Frankfyrt	6 -4 25	"Hingsom	1 31 88		7 8 45	Test Startey	C 1152	Tempetika	1 22 7
	1 -7 28	Technol.	s -3 27	Former	e 15 59	15mm	t 1014	*West	L 2475	Posts	5 24 75	Tell Auto	6 21 7
	1 17 63	Brancis	1 26 79	Reso	£ 15.59		1 15 55	Taile Co	R 1884	Pathog	s 15 59	Traipel	\$ 23.73
eninėle. Šas	s 22.72 c 16.64	Statemen.	1 10 50) Disability	1 19 66) Karandai	6 23 7E	-	8 2475 .	Peeds	c -2 25	Symbol	4 31 9
	s 20 88	- Breakey	pf 39.99	Davida	r 35 ât	-	1 24 79	(dece	s 24 /5	Code	c -127	[Streeteng	- 42
	C F		Ĉ F		C F		G F		CF		G F		C /

LIGHTING-UP TIMES	HIGH T	DES Helgit meet	sured in metres
London	AM	HT PM	HT
Bristol	2.25	6.914.47	6.9
Barningham	11.23	9.223.45	9.2
Manchester15.55 to 8.25 Avonmouth	7.55	13.020.18	12.9
Newcastle15.43 to 8.31 Hull (Albert Doc	ck) 7.00	7.319.10	7.3
Glasgow	1.23	3.413.22	3.6
Belfast		3.912.20	4.0

Call 0336 401777 to the latest local and regional traffic, never

The season of ill-will

Bishop stays away from cathedral for first time in 100 years as Lincoln feud runs deeper

Elimber 13

Religious Affairs Correspondent

On the day of good will to all men, there was little to be found in Lincoln. For the first time in more than a century, the Bishop of that diocese refused to preach his Christmas sermon in his own cathedral.

Instead, the Rt Rev Robert Hardy took to the pulpit in the parish church of Welbourne, a village 10 miles south. It was the setween the cathedral's dean, Dr Brandon Jackson, and al-

most everyone he works with. The Bishop's theme was the futility of rushing around at Christmas time: we do not need to hurry to God; He has come down to meet us. The Bishop did not refer to any world troubles nor the scandals at his cathedral; he did not need to. The row is infamous, with the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, and most the of cathedral staff urging Dean

Jackson to resign.

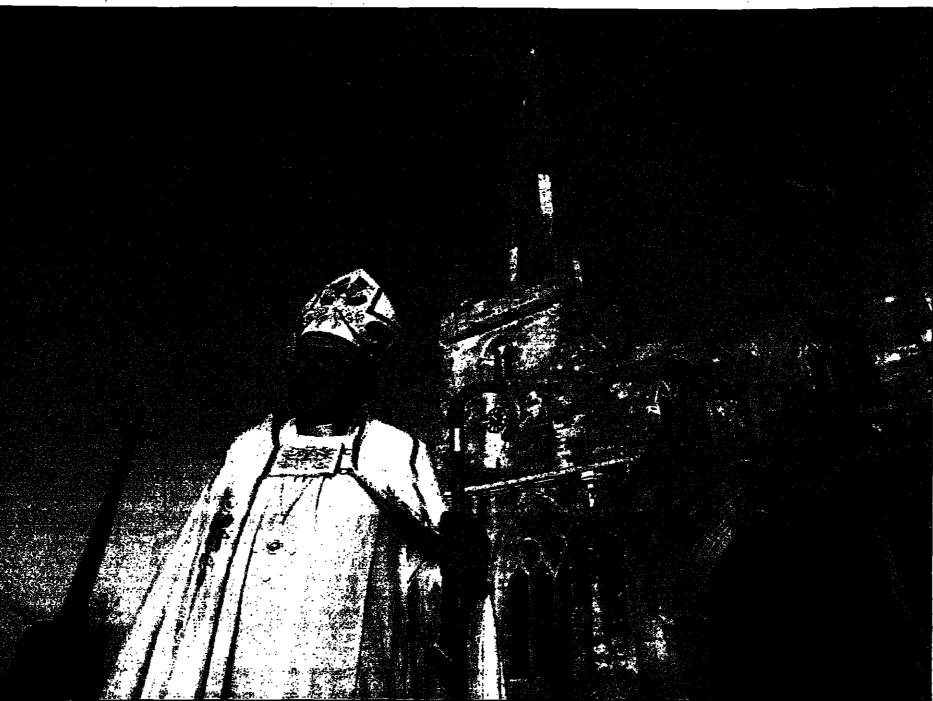
Bishop Hardy had been scheduled to preach at the 9.30am service at Lincoln Cathedral yesterday. Instead, Canon Andrew Stokes gave a sermon, on ways to deal with anger. The message of Good Friday and the reconciliation between man and God describe how to deal with increasing anger, which manifests itself in problems like road rage, he said. Rage has characterised exchanges between Lincoln's clergy in recent years. The appeals for resignations have become more and more desperate. Yet it all started so well. When Dean Jackson was appointed Dean in 1989, he came with a: reputation as a moderniser and efficient administrator, which was, Margaret Thatcher had been told, just what the cathe-dral needed. "There'll be blood on the carpet before he's done, she is meant to have said when she chose him. The source of this story is uncertain, but it is

RIPy

resign

almost certainly the dean. He was an early media vicar and was religious adviser to Yorkshire Television 1969-79. In 1995, as he faced a consistory court over allegations of an male parishioner, he was described by his friend the Bishop of Ripon as "the epitome of a Christian gentleman" and this seems to have been pretty much

his own opinion too. at Lincoln he was always avail-able to visiting journalists, and told them far more than they



three-day trial held in the old-

est purpose-built lunatic asylum

in Britain. At a press conference

he accused the Bishop of being

him, and demand that he resign.

For most of last winter Dr

The Bishop refused.

Pulpit protest: Bishop Hardy of Lincoln at Welbourne, where he preached yesterday instead of at his cathedral, because of the dispute

Canon Rex Davis, an Australian who had worked at the World Council of Churches and who had originally also been regarded as a moderniser. -His wife, Caroline, was a

leader of the Movement for the Ordination of Women. But in the mediacval constitution of

and neither can be removed except by death or a criminal trial. So far as we know, murder has not been attempted over the past seven tears. Everything else has been, from criminal proceedings to archiepiscopal exhortations.

Dean Jackson came from Lincoln cathedral, he found a Bradford Cathedral, which has

It all started so well ... but the appeals for resignations have become more and more desperate

the ground. A fairly vigorous at-means the provost, the equivaimproper relationship with a fe-tempt to reform the cathedral's lent of the dean, runs it. At Linconstitution had been made in coln he needed a reason to force 1529. It failed. Since then, noth- out chapter members he reing had disturbed the balance of power between the dean and the four residentiary canons is own opinion too. who form the governing body of when accounts came to light of
In the early years of his feud
t Lincoln he was always availest the cathedral with him. The
t Lincoln he was always availest the cathedral with him. The
the cathedral with him. The the cathedral with him the cathedral with him the cathedral with him. The
the cathedral with him the cathedral with h everything important must be done by consensus. Neither the cathedral's copy of the Magna could print. They were his main dean nor the rest of the chap carta, one of the four originals allies in his struggle against ter run the cathedral but each , with a party containing famithe sub-dean and treasurer, can stop the other running it: ly members, to an internation—the Dean of a brief affair with

niche that suited him down to a modern constitution which

garded as obstructive – which, it became clear, meant them all. He thought he had found it taken in 1988. He took the

al exhibition for six months. At her. He was acquitted after a the end of that time, the Cathedral had lost £56,000 on the

Dean Jackson called in the Fraud Squad and gave the sto- part of a conspiracy against ry to the press. Canon Davis refused to resign, and reported him to the Press Council. The Bishop mounted an inves tion which concluded after a year that the whole chapter should resign, with the Dean. All refused. The two men at the heart of the matter went to counselling together for a year. The counsellors gave up, as did the Fraud Squad. During the first years of the decade, Dean Jackson managed to rid himself of all the original chapter mem-

bers except Canon Davis. In an entirely related devel-Lady Howe was set up to examine government of English cathedrals, and recommended reforms which will prevent any cathedral clergy hanging on to their jobs in the face of such uni-

versal appeals to go. Then came the news that a former verger at the cathedral, Verity Freestone, had accused

Europe blocks duty-free drinks for the troops

Anthony Bevins Political Editor

Duty-free drink and other tax free-perks enjoyed by UK-based Commonwealth troops for more than 40 years are being killed off by Brussels.

The perks were introduced under Royal Prerogative in the late 1940s, and were then incorporated in the Visiting Forces Act 1952.

But Customs and Excise has recently discovered that two Brussels directives restrict relief from value-added tax and excise duties to Nato forces only, and that the Government has been acting illegally for at least nine

Faced with the problem of how to "regularise the legal po-sition of the United Kingdom in relation to EC law, the Treasury asked the European Commission for an exemption - or "derogation" - for the Commonwealth forces, "to enable the United Kingdom to continue affording reliefs to non-Nato Commonwealth forces from taxes and duties".

Philip Oppenheim, Exchequer Secretary to the Treasury, said earlier this month that the UK is considering how best to work towards a compromise,

But it would appear that he has little chance of success - and Commonwealth forces are facing a bill estimated at up to £1 m in duty on their alcoholic drink, tobacco, and fuel bills, as well as VAT on all purchases.

Mr Oppenheim told MPs: "The Brussels Commission has recommended that the Council of economic and finance ministers] reject the UK application for a derogation ...

"The commission asserts that such a derogation would not be restricted to one member state but would apply throughout the community and would entail a change in relevant directives.

Photograph: Tim Smith/Guzelian

Lambeth Palace and that Dr

Jackson will probably leave in

the new year. "I'll believe it when I see it," said a member

of the bishop's staff. Asked

whether Bishop Hardy gave

good sermons, Mary Jackson,

wife of Dean Jackson, said: "If

I said what I thought, I wouldn't

"In the commission's opinion, the procedure must be applied with constraint."

But as the final decision requires unanimity, taking only one minister to vote against, it is unlikely the Commonwealth

PREPARE

suade both the dean and sub-

dean to resign. Dr Jackson ap-

demanded financial compen-

sation and an assurance that

Canon Davis would quit at the

same time. This last condition

appears to have been dropped.

Last week his solicitor said he

STORM

TIMBERLAND SALE STARTS 27TH DEC.

72 New Bond Street and 125 Long Acre, Covent Garden. Stores open at 9am. **Timberland**

Nerds with a problem find that assistance is off-line

A telephone line operating out of a small industrial estate in the Midlands is likely to be the most overloaded number in Britain this Christmas. It is one of the main chain store's computer-software helplines. And it is jammed most of the time. I know,

because I have been trying to get through.

The tree fairy arrived early, in November, with a personal computer promising deffortless access to all the fantastic builtin software and on-line facilities" for adults and children alike". The Packard Bell executive multi-media, packed with £1,000 of software installed in the factory, will be one of the best sellers this Christmas, and "adults and children alike" will be dialling the help number.

It was comforting to see it flashing on the screen as I prepared to plunge into the world of PC nerds. I had a bewildering range of options - take a virtual-reality trip around the Louvre, explore the sea with a dolphin, make my own Batman and Robin cartoon, play the computer chess, learn French with Astérix, or enter the Internet through Planet Oasis. But I had a more mundane task first: to write a report and file it to the Independent. I had been do ing this without a hitch on a laptop, and knew there was something to do with a thing called a modern before I could hook up.

I looked up modem in the quick-start guide. It offered advice on how to send a fax from Windows 95, from paper, how to access the Internet. Page 64 was headed: using a modern; underneath was a section on fax/modem set-up and diagnostics. It seemed pretty straightforward. "Clicking Start, Settings, Control Panel and Modems successively brings you in the Modems Properties screen." That is where I made my first mistake. I entered the right dial-up numbers, sat back, and waited for the



Computer helpline promises are not what they seem, writes Colin Brown

connection. I got an irritating "bing" before being told the other modem was not responding. It was clear from the noise emanating from my twin speakers that it had

responded. Something was wrong.

I twiddled with the settings, and got nowhere. Then I remembered the helpline nownere. I near I readminered the nepparle number. Engaged. I tried again. Still engaged. I tried at night. Engaged. I tried in the morning. Engaged. I tried another number for Packard Bell. They advised me to ring another number. It was the same number. ber I started with. And it was still engaged. I continued fiddling with the settings.

Bored, I tried the Internet. Now I ran into real trouble. An error sign said I had committed an illegal act! Worse, the computer moaned "Oh, no" – a noise which sounded as if it was borrowed from the

Simpsons television cartoon.

I tried the help line at all hours of the day. It was constantly engaged. Things were getting pretty desperate. Child's play had defeated me.

As the days grew into a week, I tried at all times of the day and the evening to get through. The constant beeping of the engaged tone was beginning to disturb my sleep. I woke at four one morning and finally snapped. I telephoned the helpline. Outside, the moon was up. Britain was gently sleeping. And the call was answered. The software expert was all caring, like The software expert was all caring, like

a Samaritan helper for suicidal computer nerds. "We do get pretty busy. The busiest times are at the weekend. It usually gets busy again at about 8am, and then all day until about lam. Then it tails off a bit." Sleepless computer nerds all over Britain

were queuing up even now but he listened

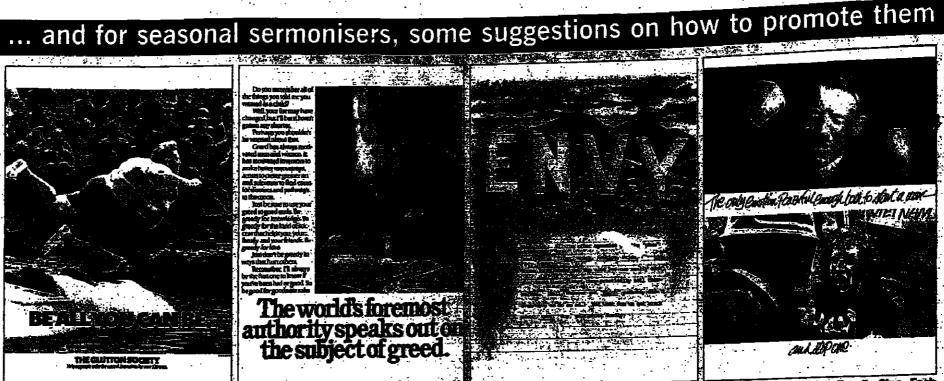
to the problem and suggested the simplest solution would be to start from the beginning again, by restoring all the software to the factory settings by using the master disk. Since then, I have not looked back. I disk. covered the modem I was using was the wrong one - I should have used something called the "HyperTerminal". There are still

a few problems. I still cannot find the £ sign

in the word-processing system.

And every time I my to call up the CD system in the Navigator room, I get the fol-lowing message: Unable to launch c:\voyetra\voyetra\windata\andiosta.exe. But who cares? I can phone the software helpline again. I will not give you the number it will only add to their queues.

The world's foremost authority speaks out on the subject of greed.



Lust and gluttony are the least deadly of the Seven Deadly Sins, according to the first detailed medical analysis of the transgressions, which highlights their positive qualities.

Lust drives people to create, to achieve, to make themselves as attractive as possible, and

even unrequited lust has its good points, it is claimed. WB Yeats's frustrated passion for Maude Gonne is cited as a pertinent example of the benefits of lust, inspiring as it did
"the greatest body of love poetry in the English language,"
according to Dr Liam Farrell,
a GP from Crossmaglen in Northern Ireland and the man charged with the analysis of lust

by the British Medical Journal. In the current issue Dr Farrell quotes from The Song of Wan-dering Aengus: "It had become a glimmering girl/With apple blossom in her hair/Who called me by my name and ran/And faded in the brightening air," and asks "Would a few good hard shags right at the start of their relationship have deprived us of these sublime and unfor-

gettable verses? As Balzac said (afterwards). There goes another good novel'." Professor John Garrow, a

Hard sell: Harper's magazine in the US approached leading American adverti agency pitted in-house teams against one another. Four of the winning entries

leading nutritionist, has only good things to say about gluttony (and to a lesser extent sloth), pointing out that the op-posites of these are asceticism and hyperactivity. "I would not mind people around me being hyperactive, so long as their mo-

tives were purged of the other unpleasant for those around deadly sins, but asceticism, restraint, or self denial are not characteristics that I would welcome in my associates and still less deeply in myself," he says. Professor Garrow says that of the Seven Deadly Sins, the penalties of gluttony fall upon pride, wrath, envy, lust, or avarice, "probably make life

Dr Simon Wessley, of the Department of Psychological Med-icine at King's College School of Medicine, says that the sin of pride is now fashionable, and that many psychologists view it as a positive emotion, listing it alongside love, joy, and grati-tude. He writes: "In the film Wall Street the motto 'greed is good'

became the epitaph of the 1980s. A 1990s remake would have Michael Douglas as a psychologist telling us that 'Pride is good'."

Professor James McCormick of the Department of Community Health and General Practice at Trinity College, Dublin, blames the notion of sloth as a sin on the Protestant work ethic. In countries with the tradition of siesta, it is absent, he says, while time to "stand [or sit or lie] and stare, time to think, is seen by others as sloth". He cites the example of one scientist who, during a discussion on the importance of new equipment, said: "We do not need more equipment, we need to think, we need a chaise longue."
Professor McCormick

aments the fact that sloth has become even more deadly in recent years because the "couch potato" not only gives offence, but is known to shorten his life too. "As somebody who looks after several people who are liv-ing to die the slow death of senescence, there seems to me a strong case for relatively ear-ly and speedy death. In a world where all women are taking hormone replacement therapy and all men are taking statins [antiageing drugs], the possibility of peaceful myocardial infarction [heart attack] will diminish, and many more can look forward to a life sans teeth, sans eyes, sans taste, sans every-thing."

He argues that sloth is a sin

only in the eye of the beholder "we need the luxury and benefits of occasional sloth."

Greed in the medical world has little to do with money, ac-cording to Dr Ralph Crawshaw from Portland, Oregon. He accuses some doctors of being "time misers" who turn up for clinics late and leave early, or spend clinic time on personal Patients may be "service misers" and Alfie, played by Michael Caine in the film of the same name, is a "stunning example," Dr Crawshaw says. "The Alfies lance to casualty to demand a sleeping pill or immediate treatment of chapped lips. They know their rights and use them for relentless demands."

Envy, according to Profes Louis Appleby, a psychiatrist at the Withington Hospital in Manchester, is different from the other Seven Deadly Sins, in that it is the only one that does not have an enjoyable side. "It sour grapes." In fact, he finds little that is positive to say about envy and recalls that it was Sigmund Freud's view that this state of mind "explained" women. It is not envy but jealousy that worries modern psychiatrists, he says, because it is more than thought "it leads

Professor Chapman from the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at Sydney University, asked to

Pride is now fashionable. seen as a 🐞 positive emotion alongside love and gratitude'

pontificate on wrath, prefers instead to choose someone worthy of the wrath of doctors and public health workers. "Surely, with currently three million deaths a year to their names, it's hard to pass by the strategists within the tobacco industry as exemplary candidates for our collective wrath," Professor Chapman says. "The recent revelations about over 30 years of lying, scientific palm greasand cover-up in the international tobacco industry, for the purposes of keeping as many people smoking as possible. showed that these people have of our world have an insouciant all the ethics of a cash register



B80 OPEN TODAY 10am-5pm

"Fantastic Sale Offers on Kitchens and Bathrooms."

FOR ONLY

Claremont Green Aston

Mulberry Glendale

Was £814.91

Edmonton

Bordeaux

9 Unit Kitchen

Example as

Was £564.91

△9 UNIT KITCHEN EXAMPLE

2 1000mm HGHLNE 6 500mm WALL UNIT BASE/SINK UNIT 7 1000mm WALL UNIT 3 1000mm HG-LINE 7 1000mm WALL UNIT 8 600mm SURL UNIT 9 1000mm WALL UNIT

ON SELECTED KITCHENS

Up to 2 years interest Free Credit when you spend \$1,800 or more on 28 other kitchens in the range. Your purchase can include accessories, worktops, sinks, taps, appliances and installation costs.

PURCHASE

TYPICAL EXAMPLE REPAYMENT TABLE PURCHASE PRICE 20% MINIMUM DEPOSIT OF

\$2,400 or more 24 months

PRICE PERIOD \$1,800 - \$2,399.99 18 months

SELECTED BATHROOM SUITES

SHELDON SUITE & INSTALLATION

NOW

Country Cottage Bathroom Suite White acrylic bath with antique pine effect from panel and toilet seat and gold effect bath and basin taps. Was £595

WAS £299

SUITE NOW £249

Suite can be purchased without installation. Suite comprises straight white acrylic bath and front panel, 2 tap hale basin and pedestal,

2 top note base and pedestra, c/c pon and cistem, while wooden toilet seat and gold effect bath and basin tops (includes wastes). Ask in store for details and conditions of Installation.

installation for

Sheidon suite



pine effect both panel and taile and both taps (not both/shower

Was £495

A BIGGER CHOICE • A BETTER PRICE

YOU CAN DO IT WHEN YOU B&O IT!

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST D.I.Y CHAIN - FOR YOUR NEAREST STORE PHONE 0800 600 900 We're now on the internet -http://www.diy.co.uk

Ask in-store for delotts of all offers. Offers may vary at 86Q Warehouses and 88Q Depols. See in-stare for details of our price promise. All killchens and bothrooms may not e displayed in oil stores but can be ordered from any 880. Installation only ovalizable with purchases of S&Q latchens and batteours and not included in all discount offers, ask in store for details and casts. Ask



A minimum pre payment of £25 entitles you to £25 of Swiftcall talktime, panny for penny that's over 4 hrs to the USA.

. All you need is a tone phone, and you almost certainly already have one. You're not limited to just using your own phone either, use a mobile, pay phone, hotel phone, or even a friend's today!

● □ HengKeng 48p 69p S.Africa 60p £1.02 uk 169 360 Tahuan 49p £1.08 Migeria 70p £1.31 50p £1.08 Pakistan 80p £1.33 60p £1.33 Bengladesk 88p £1.33



SELECTED KITCHEN UNITS

Sandhurst

Tumberry

Derwent

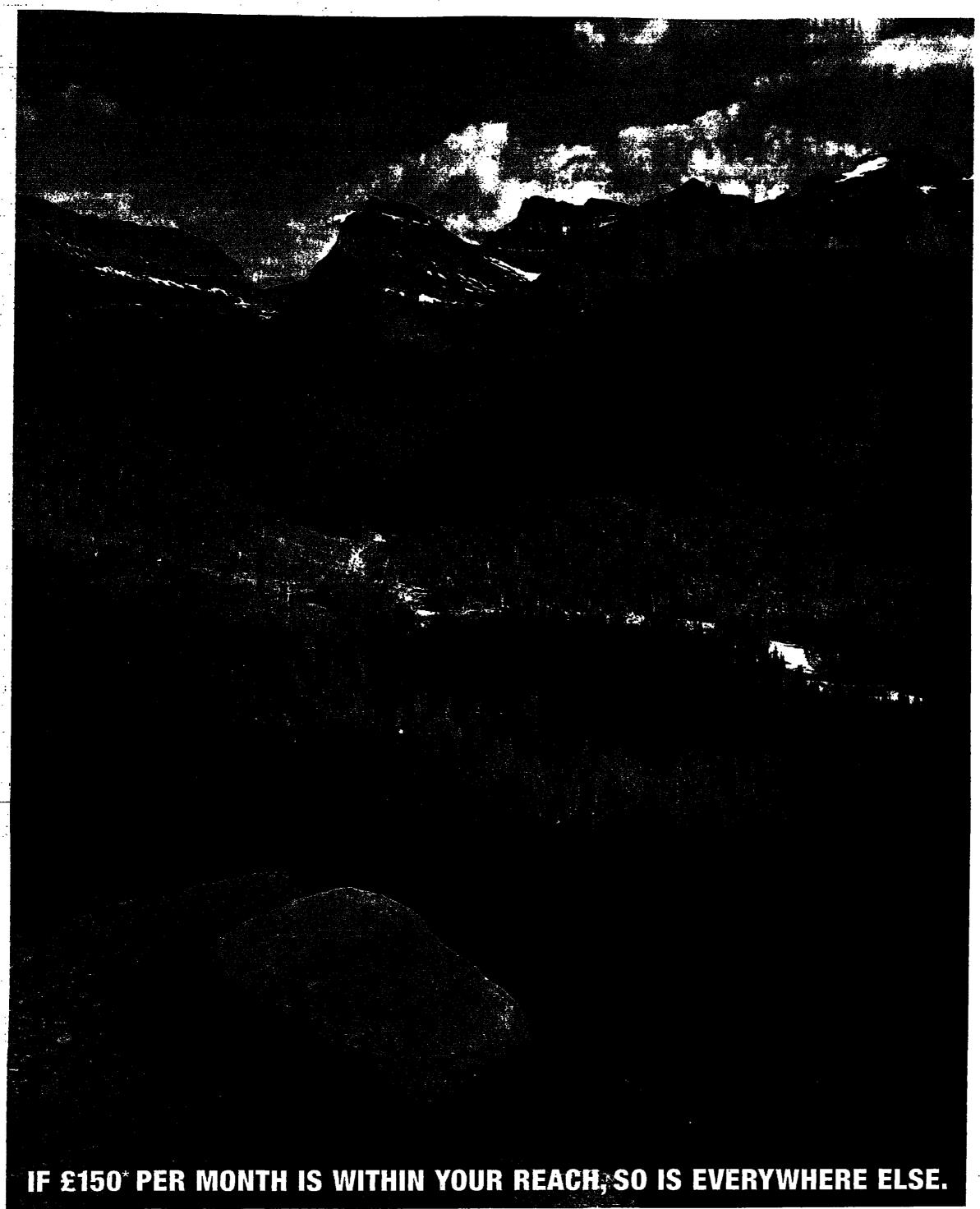
CLUBCARD POINTS AT B&Q Pick up a leaflet in store Does not apply in Warehouses or \$20 De

OPENING HOURS Boxing Day: Thurs 26th Dec 10cm-5pm, Monday-Saturday: Most stores 8am-8pm, Sunday: Most stores England & Wales 10am-4pm (where permitted), Scotland & Northern Ireland 9am-6pm. New Years Eve: Tues 31st Dec 8am-5pm. New Years Day: Wed 1st Jan England, Wales and Northern Ireland 10am-6pm. Scotland CLOSED.

Certain store hours may vary, please 'phone your necrest store to confirm.

4.

,)



US DEPOSIT AND FINAL PAYMENT

Mountain slopes, muddy forests, dry river beds. Complete driving freedom starts with the very complete Freedom Finance scheme. It gives you total flexibility when it comes to buying a Land Rover Discovery. For instance, £150* per month is only one of the repayment schemes we offer.

n Articles of the state of the

RIP: W

You can choose the size of your deposit from anything between 10% and 40% of the purchase price. So, your monthly payment could be even lower.

How can we be so flexible? It's because Land Rovers are built

£20,650.00	Final Payment	£13,000.00
£7,287.00	Charge for Credit	£3,331.00
£13,363.00	Total Payable	£23,981.00
£150.00	ADD 40	0/20/
£13,000.00	Arn iz	. 3 3 7 0
	E20,650.00 £7,287.00 £13,363.00 £150.00	£7,287.00 Charge for Credit £13,363.00 Total Payable £150.00 ADD 19

to last. Which is why we can guarantee the future value of your vehicle. In fact, if you wish, you can structure your payments so

that at the end, you receive a lump sum of money which you can put towards a new Land Rover. (There is another option, of course, you can give the car back and walk away.)

That's not all, you can choose from 5 mileage bands, and you can pay over 24 or 36 months.

Whichever way you do it, you have the reassurance that all the costs are worked out in advance and put down on paper.

So, whatever the conditions, you have the same number of surprises as you have behind the wheel of a Discovery. None at all.



For further information either call Freephone 100 Land Rever or send/fax the coupon to: Land Rever Administration, Freepost TK 494, Twickenham, Middx TW2 5UN (Fax: 0181 894 3099)
Title E Initials Initials Surmaine I Initials Surmaine PARTITION
Address 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
Current Car (Make/Model) Daytime Tel. (inc. STD)
Registration Letter (e.g. N) is it owned privately When do you expect to be replacing it? (e.g. 8/97) THE BEST 4x4xFAR. LAND-ROVER
INE DESI TATALAND PROVERS

SOWERY 5 DOOR TOLES ON ACAD PRICE SOLES, COMMERCIAL VENICES AND VEHICLES RESISTERED OUTSIDE THE U.K. ARE EXCLUDED FROM THE PRECEDIN PLAN APPLICE COMPRISES RETAL PRICE COMPRISES RETAL PRICE FULLS 2020 FOR DELAFORY FROM THE MANUFACTURER, NUMBER PLATES AND 12 MOUTHS ROAD PLAND LICENCE. "TO BHABLE LAND ROVER TO DO THIS, YOU WILL HAVE TO PRY THE DECESS MALEAGE CHARGE SHOWN ON THE AGREEMENT. CREDIT AMALABLE TO THOSE AGED

exp

Settlers vow to resist Hebron troop pull-out

Defiant Jewish settlers, angry at the prospect of a peace deal be-tween Israeli and Palestinian leaders, plan to flood Hebron with thousands of sympathisers. They want to resist the redeployment of Israeli troops from the last West Bank Arab city still under occupation.

The new strategy was revealed yesterday as Israeli and Palestinian negotiators continued haggling over the smallprint of a Hebron deal, agreed in broad detail at a Christmas Eve summit between their respective leaders, Benjamin Netanyahu and Yasser Arafat.

A spokesman for the Israeli Prime Minister said last nightthat another summit was likely today at which they hoped to initial an agreement. "The talks," he added, "seem to be going well." The package is ex-West Bank rural areas.

Forty Jewish families live more people to live here." among 150,000 Muslims in the centre of Hebron, the burial place of their common ancestor, Abraham. There is little to choose between their fundamentalist fanaticism. Roni Shaked, who covers the West

Agreement on West Bank withdrawal likely at today's summit, writes Eric Silver

week that the new dividing line in the holy city would be "a wall of harred". Any hopes of coexistence, he argued, were doomed. The new reality is only going to widen the gaps between the two societies."

David Wilder, a spokesman for the Hebron settlers, told The Independent: "We are going to create a situation where there will be more than the present 450 Jews in Hebron. Our immediate aim is to prevent the repected to include a timetable for further Israeli withdrawals from deployment. If that doesn't work, we will continue to build work, we will continue to build more buildings and to bring

Asked if they contemplated more violent resistance, Mr Wilder emphasised: "We have no plans to build a private army. We have no plans to go to war against the Israeli army. We have no plans to go to war against the Bank for the Tel-Aviv daily, Palestinian police. We do plan Yediot Aharonot. predicted this to go on living here."

As a foretaste, 20 settlers took over two empty houses in the Hebron casbah early yesterday. The casbah, adjacent to the Jewish enclave, is due to come under Palestinian rule. Mr Arafat's Palestinian Authority intends to house 600 security prisoners there on their reease from Israeli jails.

The Jewish squatters, who claimed they were preventing "terrorists" moving in, were evicted after scuffles with Israeli troops. Two Jews were charged with attacking soldiers.

Palestinian militants kept the pot boiling by tossing three petrol bombs at Israeli vehicles - an almost daily irritant dur-ing this week of accelerating diplomatic activity. Police arrested five Palestinians, three of them children. No casualties were reported. Fierce opposition to the He

bron deal is crystallising within Mr Netanyahu's Likud and his partners in the ruling coalition of right-wing and religious par-ties. Two Likud ministers, Ariel Sharon and Benny Begin, have announced they will vote against it. So have the two ministers of the National Religious Party. Mr Sharon, a retired gener-

al, condemned the deal as "a terrible agreement". After a



Home front: Israeli police evicting Jewish settlers who occupied empty Palestinian homes in Hebron to protest at troop redeployment. Photograph: AFF

ministerial briefing on Tues-day night, he said he was "more worried" than ever about the settlers' safety. Mr Begin, son of the Likud's legendary

being mentioned as a standard betraying the party's ideology. bearer to challenge Mr Ne- "The land of Israel belongs to tanyahu for the party leadership. naire former Likud prime minister, accused Mr Netanyahu of

the people of Israel forever, without partners," Mr Shamir told the Ma'ariv newspaper yes-terday. "The government's will-

ingness to implement the Oslo accords is a fatal error. The notion that decisions of a previous government have to be fulfilled is stupid and malicious."

in either the 18-member Cabirely on the support of Labour and the left-wing Meretz for the



8 Cabinets, Oven, hob & EXTRACTOR, SINK, TAPS AND WORKTOPS PLUS A DISHWASHER

SALE PRICE

LOW COST

homeworks

Beatings fail to halt Belgrade protesters

Kurt Schork and Donald Forbes

Belgrade - Undaunted by police beatings, opponents of Ser-bian President Slobodan Milosevic took to the streets in protest again yesterday, following clashes on Christmas Eve between pro- and anti-

Five were hospitalised, including one man who remained in a critical condition after being shot in the head during the disturbances by a supporter of any further violence would dam-Mr Milosevic's ruling Socialist age Serbia's efforts to reinte-

More than a month of street protests against Mr Milosevic had gone virtually without vioence until Tuesday when the SPS arranged to bus supporters into Belgrade for a rally at the same time and place as the opposition. Vuk Draskovic, leader of the opposition Serbian Renewal Movement, said Tuesday's events let the genie of violence out of the bottle and marked

"the beginning of civil war in Belgrade".
The harder Mr Milosevic tries to shore up the credibility of his SPS as a party ruling Serbia by popular consent, the

him wrong. Another fig leaf was peeled away when Mr Milosevic's party rallied only 40,000 supporters in Belgrade under police protection on Tuesday, after boasting it would mobilise half a million.

Snow, bitter temperatures, icy streets and the memory of Tues-day's running battles yesterday did little to dampen the students' enthusiasm, although their numbers were down subBlowing whistles and borns and chanting anti-Milosevic slo-

gans, protesters snaked through the centre of the city, drawing waves and cheers of support from many onlookers in office and residential blocks along ton and Paris warned

they held Mr Milosevic responsible for Belgrade's street violence. The German Foreign Minister, Klaus Kinkel, warned

grate with Europe. Western governments spent much of the last year praising Mr Milosevic as a responsible world leader for his work in support of the Bosn-

ian peace agreement.
Still firmly in control of all institutions of government, including state television, the army and police, Mr Milosevic struction of former Yugoslavia shows no sign of surrendering and the wars in Croatia and power voluntarily.

Diplomats say Russia would probably block any effort by the ruin.

demonstrated on the previous day. In Serbia, Christmas is celebrated on 6 January.

UN Security Council to pressure Mr Milosevic by reimposing economic sanctions on Serbia, which were lifted earlier this year in the wake of the Bosnia peace deal.

His ability to use force now has been virtually vetoed by USled Western threats of reprisals and also by hints of reluctance on the part of the security forces to get too involved.

Monitors listening to police radios during the clashes on Tuesday heard commanders ordering their men to use minimum force, even when they or SPS supporters were taking a beating fromopposition activists of the Zajedno (Together)

. .

Like everyone else who works for the Serbian state, the police are paid only when the government can find the cash and therefore have less interest in preserving it. The army, which used tanks to save Mr Milosevic and quell anti-government protests that cost two lives in 1991, has stayed silently on the sidelines in 1996.

The idea that the SPS might ditch Mr Milosevic rests on the theory that the thousands of party members who hold every worthwhile job in the state ap-paratus and the economy, have too much to lose to relinquish

Their wealth has been milked from the labour and looted from the bank accounts of ordinary Serbs, as Zajedno nev-

er tires of telling its supporters. Out of power, they would be held accountable for the de-Bosnia which have reduced Serbia's people to economic

Hope grows of deal on Peru hostages

Phil Davison Latin America Correspondent

Outside, carol singers sang "Silent Night" and relatives prayed Inside, 105 Latin Amercan and Asian hostages said Mass under the guns of their Marxist captors. It was a grim Christmas for

the hostages in the besieged Japanese ambassador's residence in Lima, Peru. They had spent Christmas Eve in almost complete darkness, with power, water and phone lines still cut.

The hostages include Peruvian President Alberto Fujimori's brother, Pedro, foreign minister Francisco Tudela, Peru's anti-terrorism chief, sevand dozens of Japanese execu-

the Tupac Amaru Liberation (MRTA) movement were said

ing no sign of backing down on the MRTA and the Peruvian their demands for the release of and Japanese governments. several hundred jailed comrades, transport to safety and an unspecified ransom figure.

The Peruvian government reacted angrily yesterday to the news that Uruguay had apparently done a deal with the hostage takers, releasing two jailed Tupac members in return for the freeing by the guerrillas of its ambassador to Peru, Tabare Bocalandro, on Christmas Eve. Peru withdrew its acting ambassador to Uruguay in protest at the move.

The possibility of a deal being struck with the guerrillas could be significant. Firstly, it was the first concession they had eral judges, six ambassadors won since storming the Japanese ambassador's reception nine days ago. Secondly, it The estimated 16 guerrillas of showed that negotiations were going on, presumably through the International Red Cross, despite the hard-line statements by

and Japanese governments.

Perhaps most importantly, it suggested that the guerrillas are in negotiation with their pris-oners. Diplomats say that could mean multi-million dollar ransoms from the Japanese companies whose executives they are holding.

Speculation is growing that

the gnerrillas are negotiating a deal under which they and at least some of the hostages are flown to Cuba, where President Fidel Castro is known to support their Marxist views, Under that theory, Mr Castro, it is be-lieved, would receive a cut of the ransom money in return for weapons and help in re-infiltrating Peru.

Moscow (AP) - President

Yeltsin yesterday proposed that the G7 group of leading industrialised nations, together with Russia, should send

An expert's guide to the bargain trail

It's a great time to liven up your wardrobe or add some style to your home. But you'll need a strategy. Here are details of what's on offer, plus some tips from the professionals. Compiled by Abigail Raynor

FASHION Now running:

Kate Jones At 28 St Christopher's Place, London W1. Cool, cut-price hipster miniskins are down to £71 from £95 and pretty baby-doll dresses are reduced from £125 to £93.

At 136 Fulham Road, London SW10 (0171-835 1327). Prices are reduced by 25 per cent on labels such as Strenesse and MaxMara, Best bargains are Schober suits, reduced from £750 to £300.

Blazer (Moss Bross Group) At stores nationwide. Blazer pure-wool suits make excellent bargains at £125. down from £250, and pure cotton shirts are equally easy to snap up at £19.50, down from the original price

Racing Green Until 11 Jan, at 33 King Street, Manchester (0161-835 2022) and branches in Glasgow and Kingstonupon-Thames. Discounts of 25-50 per cent will be made at the stores and on mail-order.

H&M Hennes At branches nationwide. Ronit Zilkha

At branches across London. There is a 50 per cent discount on selected items. The star bargain is the daisyprint silk satin shirt, reduced from From 27 Dec onwards:

Austin Reed Starts 27 Dec at branches nationwide. Men can get their single-breasted two- and three-button suits in stylish winter colours and wools reduced from £299 to £199, barn coats are down from £169 to £99 and there is a 25 per cent discount on cotton shirts. For women, fashion shirts are available at less than 50 per cent of the usual price and twill trousers, usually £49, are £29.95.

"You should go feeling very open-minded"

Deborah Shaw, personal shopping consultant, Harvey Nictions. At sale time it's gleaters and something outrageous, that you wouldn't neutrally bey, such as a new party outfit for those times when you get sick of alt your every an clothes. To mark your every an clothes. To mark the wear Calvan Neutron at the sales will buy Angle Dementers see and lean Paul Ganitles.

Think it's a mistake to plant ahead with Sales you should go feeling very open misuled, and that way-you are more likely so buy something that in grin bring another levelito your wantions. I never get these of our because I don't shop for long persons. Individual think it's adjustice to do not shop for long persons. Individual think it's adjustice to do not shop for long over live and as the cause it can be something.

Betty Jackson Starts 27 Dec and continues into mid-Jan, at 311 Brompton Road, London SW3. Cashmere polo sweaters are reduced from £599 to £298; black leather three-quarter-length trench

coats from £845 to £422. Starts 27 Dec and continues for 4-5 weeks, at 15 Shorts Gardens, London WC2 (0171-240 6694). Discounts of up to 50 per cent.

Starts 2 Jan and continues for 3-4 weeks at 16 B Grafton Street, London W1 (0171-409 1721). Discounts of 20-50 per cent on some lingerie brands including Aubade, La Perla, Chantal Thomoss and Dolce &

Starts 27 Dec at all Burberry outlets.

Burberry

Womenswear bargains include raincoats, reduced from £450 to £295. trench coats, down from £595 to £375, Bodmin raincoats, reduced from £395 to £275, blazers, cut from £375 to £195. Discounts on menswear are also good: raincoats, from £425 to £295, and blazers, from £325 to £185. There are also generous reductions on accessories such as silk squares and cashmere scarves.

Starts 27 Dec and continues for 4 weeks, at West 1 Shopping Centre, 379 Oxford Street, London W1, and at all stores nationwide (0321 287866). Almost everything will be marked down; discounts of up to 50 per cent on many lines.

Cashmere Studio Starts 27 Dec, at 10 Sloane Street, London SW1 (0171-245 9111). For the best bargains check out ladies' ultra-fine one-ply classic mock-turtle and rollneck sweaters, down from £129 to £89, and Murrey Allen

cashmeres, reduced by 50 per cent. Cerniti 1881 Menswear sale starts 28 Dec, at 26 New Bond Street, London W1 (0171-493 2278)

Cerruti 1881 Womenswear sale 27-31 Dec, at 106 New Bond Street, London W1 (0171-495 5880).

Runs 27 Dec-31 Jan, at 61A Brompton Road, London SW3 (0171-589 5584). Discounts of 50 per cent on fine costume jewellery. Designworks

From 27 Dec. continues for 3 weeks, at 19 Avery Row, London W1. Discounts of 30-50 per cent on

selected items. Best bargains include wool flannel three-piece suits, reduced from £395 to £270; moleskin jackets, from £169 to £120; moleskin icans, from £95 to £65; full-length leather crombies, from £485 to £300; jersey tops in navy, charcoal and black, from £40 to £25.

Starts 26 Dec in Scotland and 27 Dec in England, at West 1 Store, 379 Oxford Street, London W1, and branches nationwide. Emporio Armani Starts 27 Dec, at 191 Brompton Road, London SW3 (0171-823 8818)

and at stores across London. Sales in Manchester and Glasgow start Starts 27 Dec, nationwide. Discounts

of up to 50 per cent on winter stock. Starts 27 Dec, at 37 Sloane Street, London SW1 (0171-235 6232). Hobbs

Starts 27 Dec at branches nationwide. Runs 27 Dec-31 Jan, at 30 Burlington Arcade, London SW3 (0171-499 136) and 58 Beauchamp Place, London SW3 (0171-584 1985). Reductions of

50 per cent on jewellery. The Kingshill Designer Catalogues Runs 2-20 Jan. Discounts of 50 per cent, including items from the current Christmas catalogue (01494 890555). Laura Ashley

Starts 26 Dec in Scotland, Warrington and shops within Sainsbury's Homebase House and Garden Centres, 27 Dec in all other shops within the UK and Republic of Ireland (0990 622116). MCM at Harrods 8 Jan-1 Feb at Harrods. Knightsbridge, London SW1.

Discounts of 50 per cent on some items. Best buys include wool doublebreasted black jackets, reduced from £294 to £99, unfortunately available only in size 38. Runs 8 Jan-1 Feb at 4 Old Bond

Street, London W1. Some items will be reduced by 50 per cent but bargains of the sale are two ski-suits, one in black one in white, priced at £375, down from £750.

Starts 27 Dec. at 23 The Market. London WC2, and at stores nationwide. Discounts of up to 50 per cent. Look out for panne velvet column dresses, reduced from £85 to £55; silk shantung frock coats, down from £125 to £75 with matching trousers, reduced from £60 to £39.95. £160, Aran cardigans are reduced from £60 to £39.95. Floral prints and checks are half price. There are also reductions on childrenswear at some branches.

Starts 27 Dec nationwide. Menswear, womenswear, and interiors all discounted by up to 50 per cent.

Starts 27 Dec for 3 weeks, at Nougat at Fenwick, Brent Cross Shopping Centre, London NW4, House of Fraser, Gateshead, and Binns of Middlesbrough. Soft angora sweaters, shantung silk shirts and suits will be among the sale items to be reduced by 50 per cent (0171-208-4300).

Rnns from today until the end of January, at 292 Regent Street, London W1 and branches nationwide. Discounts of up to 50 per cent; bargains include tan suede safarī jackets, down from £109.99 to £69.99 and a red crêpe trousersuit, down from £44.99 to £24.99.

Red or Dead Starts 27 Dec at all London stores. Reductions of 40 per cent on most stock: suede high boots reduced from £125 to £75; pinafore frocks, down from £79 to £45.

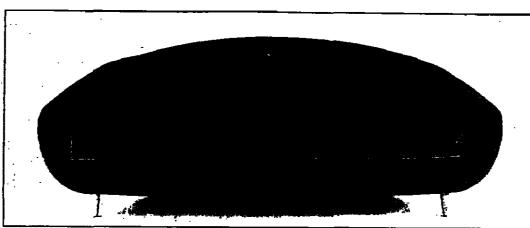
The Scotch House Starts 27 Dec for 2-3 weeks, at 2 Brompton Road, London SW1 and stores across London. Discounts of 30-40 per cent. Ladies' cashmere round-necked cardigans, down from £195 to £139 (0171-581 2151 for mail order and inquiries).

Shirin Cashmere Starts 28 Dec and continues for 3 weeks, at Shirin Cashmere, 11 Beauchamp Place, London SW3. Save 30-50 per cent on pure cashmere jumpers, polonecks, tunics, trousers, short skirts and coats in gold, birch, blue ink, dragon red, dark green and black.

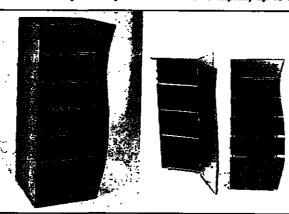
Simpsons Rons 27 Dec-25 Jan at Picadilly. London, Extra 10 per cent off on 27 Dec, 9am-10am, all day 29 Dec and 1 Jan (offer excludes concessions). Reductions of up to 50 per cent on YSL, Laroche, Costelloe, MaxMara, Fink, Geiger, Simpson. Excellent sale bargains are full-length coats. reduced from £429 to £299, tweed and plain wool jackets, reduced from £259 to £179, wool trousers and skirts reduced from £110 to £75; Merino knitwear, originally priced at £95, is now £65. The best menswear reductions are on cashmere coats, reduced from £699 to £499, Daks Blazers, down from £195 to £155, Daks sports jackets, from £199 to £99 and Daks two-piece suits, from £299

to £149. The Suit Company Starts 17 Nov at branches nationwide. Pierre Cardin silk ties, £19.95; trousers and shirts, £29.95. Swaine Adeney Brigg and Herbert

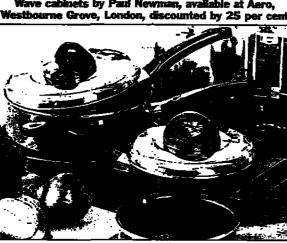
Runs 2 Jan-31 Jan, at 10 Old Bond Street, London W1. The best of



The Orwell Sofa, designed by Matthew Hilton, available at SCP, Curtain Road, London EC2. SCP has counts of up to 50 per cent on floor samples, up to 15 per cent on items ordered during the sale



Wave cabinets by Paul Newman, available at Aero,



Tefal 'Amaiversary' five-piece non-stick cookware set in green, normal price £100, available at the House of



Office court shoe, in black and two-tone as shown and in beige, original price £49.99, sale price £38

by Goldie Hawn and many

£999. The best of ladies fashion is

reduced by up to 75 per cent and .

menswear by up to 50 per cent. Harvey Nichols

Starts 27 Dec at Knightsbridge,

of up to 50 per cent will be found

per cent reduction for all account-

holding customers for the first four

days of the sale. The height of

designer style in womenswear

London SW1 and in Leeds, Discounts

throughout the store with an extra 10

"You have to treat it like

a military operation"

The best piece of advice I could

give anyone shopping in the

something purely because it's

cheap. People can make some horrible mistakes buying things

On the other hand it is also a

mistake to buy things because

you think they are going to be

clothes I have bought for that

reason only turn out to be very

boring and I don't wear them.

find that the more seemingly

frivolous outilits I have bought

are the things I wear to death.

I think you have to treat sale-

useful. I often find that the

which they consider to be a

sales would be to avoid getting

Lucinda Chambers, fashion

stylist, Yoguè

real bargain.

British fashion and hats all together under one roof Swaine Adeney fashion will be reduced by 20 to 30 per cent (0171-409 7277) and there will be discounts of 50 per cent on selected Herbert Johnson ladies bats (0171-408 1174).

Vicky Martin Starts 2 Jan, at 5 St Christopher's Place, London W1 and at stores in Leeds and Manchester. Bargains such as the Kate catsuit, down from £120 to a mere £60, and the long print kaftan, which was £110, down to £66. Other stock will have similar

DEPARTMENT STORES British Home Stores Starts 26 Dec in Scotland and England and 27 Dec in Wales.

Starts 27 Dec in the UK and 26 Dec in Scotland (0171-408 4444). Great bargains to be found throughout the store with up to 50 per cent off selected Nuage rainwear and selected premium-range J Taylor clothing, handbags and hats. Men will find savings of £10 on all Levi jeans and 50 per cent reductions on IO casual tops and shirts. There are similar reductions in the childrenswear and

homes departments. Runs from 27 Dec for 3 weeks, at 63 New Bond Street, London W1, and at stores in Brent Cross, at Ricemans of Canterbury, Fenwick of Newcastle. Timbridge Wells, Windsor, York and Leicester. Some lines will be discounted by up to 30 per cent including designer wear, such as Nicole Farhi and Mani.

Fortnum & Mason Starts 28 Dec, at 181 Picadilly, London W1 (0171-734 8040). Reductions of up to 50 per cent on women's, men's and children's clothing. Women's fashion includes designer collections such as Jean Muir, Jasper Conran, MaxMara, Mani, and YSL. Among the bargains in menswear are suits reduced from £495 to £295, Loro Piana doe-skin wool overcoats, reduced from £495 to Harrods

shopping rather like a military operation. You have to have an idea of what you want, go to where you are most likely to Rnns 8 Jan until 1 Feb at Knightsbridge, London SW1. find it, get it and get out. Britain's biggest sale will be opened



Riack four-button single-breasted wool suit, down from £279 to £249; black and white gingham check button-down cotton shirt, down from £39.95 to £29.95; red horizontal stripe silk tie, down from £35 to £29.95, all at selected branches of

includes Dolce & Gabbana, Caivin departments will be offering half-Klein and Givenchy, Men will also price stock. There will be salehave the opportunity to snap up preview days from 1 to 4 Jan allowing labels like selected CK Jeans, Versus customers to order before the crowds by Gianni Versace and Giorgio descend. Harrods account-holders Armani Le Collezioni at half the will get an extra 10 per cent discount usual price. For interiors Ralph on the first Saturday of the sale. Lauren Home items will be among Among the bargains will be cutlery the bargains. John Lewis Partnership and silverware reduced by up to 40 per cent, towels and bathroom items by up to 50 per cent, and excellent counts on household appliances such as the Admiral 22SL American style fridge/freezer, down from £1.899 to £1,299 and the Sony CCD TRV70 Hi8 camcorder, down from £1,400 to

Clearance sales run in all John Lewis department stores from 28 or 31 Dec until 11 Jan. Reductions cover all household goods, from bath linen such as Jonelle cotton bath towels in more than 20 colours for as little as £8.75, to china, such as Denby, Wedgwood and Spode which are reduced by up to 20 per cent. Other bargains include handbags, performery, jewellery and men's Christian Dior shirts for the special purchase price of £19.50. Liberty

Starts 27 Dec at Regent Street, London W1. Generous discounts are available on designer womenswear collections such as Gueci. Gaultier. Issev Mivake, Nicole Farhi, Ally Capellino, with many Vivienne Westwood lines reduced to half the normal price. Kenzo and Armani ties and Polo Ralph Lauren casuals are among the best of the bargains on offer in menswear. Armani, Pellini and Angie Gooderham jewellery will all be at half price and there will be excellent reductions on handbags and leathers. Homewares and interiors discounts will include half-price towels as well as linens, lighting, china and glass.

Starts 27 Dec and runs for about one month, at Oxford Street, London W1. Womenswear reductions of between 30 to 50 per cent include Calvin Klein, Future Ozbek, Workers for Freedom, Jasper Conran, Gaultier and selected lines of Polo Ralph Lauren. Equally exclusive lines in menswear such as some Paul Smith, Calvin Klein and selected YSL are reduced by up to 30 per cent. Household items such as china and crystal will be reduced by up to 40 per cent, linens and bathroom items by up to 50 per cent; there will be up to 50 per cent reductions on silverware and excellent discounts on

a range of floor coverings, Oriental

carpets, books, and up to 50 per cent discounts on childrenswear.

SHOES: Church's

Starts 16 Dec, at 201 Regent Street, London WI and branches across London. World-renowned quality allleather shoes. Discounts include the Dorchester shoe, down from £195 to £120, the Litz, down from £185 to £95 and the ladies quitted loafer in sunflower yellow, down from £110 to

Dr Martins

Runs Jan 13 until the end of Feb. at 1-4 King Street, London WC2 (0171-497 1460)

Starts 27 Dec at branches across London. Ladies classic loafers are reduced from £75 to £55, the zip-up boot with heel from £100 to £50. men's classic lace-up shoes from £95 to £40. All discounts are on the current stock

Starts 15 Dec. at 260 Oxford Street, London W1 (0171-499 (305) and 476 Oxford Street, London W1 (0171-629 9609), 17 Dec for all other stores. with 25 to 30 per cent off men and women's shoes.

Starts 4 Jan at all branches across London (0181-838 4447). Reductions of up to 60 per cent on selected ranges of women's and men's footwear including styles by Karl Largerfeld, Charles Jourdan, Sweeneys, Timberland, Caterpillar, Nike, Adidas, Fila and Vans.

Pied à Terre Starts 27 Dec at 31 Old Bond Street. London W1 and all branches in London, Manchester, Glasgow, Brighton, Brent Cross and Lakeside Shopping Centre (0171-499 9204). Discounts of up to 75 per cent on selected shoes, clothing and hags.

Starts 15 Dec in London and 9 Dec nationwide. The sale on accessories and children's shoes will start on 12 Dec (0171-631 0224). Discounts will be up to 50 per cent although most reductions will be around 33 per cent. Bargains include suede loafers, down from £29.99 to £20, elegant beaded satin high-heel court shoe in grey or burgundy, reduced from £39.99 to £29, men's slip-on loafer with leather sole down from £49.99 to £40 and ankle hoots with buckle down from £39.99 to £30.

HOMES & INTERIORS

Grove, London W2 with up to 50 per cent off many items. Many of the innovative furniture designs of Paul Newman will be reduced by up to 25 per cent including the stylish Ali table with polished aluminium legs and a birch-veneered top and his unusual Wave Cabinets. Aero also has a wide range of contemporary lighting and kitchen goods. The Conran Shop

Starts 4 Jan, at 81 Fulham Road, London SW3 (0171-589 7401) with 30 per cent discounts on uphoistery and discontinued lines.

The Charleston Shop and Gallery Runs 4.5 Jan. at Charleston, near Firle, Lewes, East Sussex (01323 811626). Discounts from 25 to 50 per cent on ceramics and textiles, 10 per cent on books; some Quentin Bell ceramics seconds will also be

Starts 18 Jan and continues for 2 weeks at Newnham Terrace, Hercules Road, London SE1 (0171-902 1000). There will be a third off bathroom products and accessories. One excellent bargain is the cast-iron rolltop bath, reduced from £450 to £295.

Runs 27 Dec until 19 Jan. at 196

Tottenham Court Road, London WI (0171-636 166b) and stores in London and Guilford. Discounts include 20 per cent off normal-stock dining tables, chairs, occasional tables and upholstery, 30 per cent off selected clear-glass vases, 50 per cent off discounted linens and all basket ware at the Tottenham Court Road store. Good reductions on metal heds and discounted children's furniture ranges Connections and Carnival. The star bargains of the sale include Caprice metal beds, reduced from £720 to £575, Bergere chairs, frame-only, down from £810 to £595, and Bergere two-seater chairs, frame-only, down from £1,090 to £750. House of Fraser Home Wares Starts 27 Dec at Dickins & Jones, at 224-244 Regents Street, London W1 (0171-734 7070) and branches across

England and 26 Dec in Scotland at all branches. Bargain beds such as the Slumberland copper-seal four-drawer divan set, reduced from £799 to £499; excellent discounts on electricals include the Toshiba 2855DB 28in colour television, down from £649,99 to £469.99; kitchen wares such as Tefal wok and fondue set, down from £99.99 to £49.99; and furniture such as the Y550 dining table, reduced from £1,480 to £1,180 and large sofas. down from £1,090 to £990.

Starts Dec 26 at 2 Drury Way, North Circular Road, London NW10 (0181-208 5600) and at branches in Croydon, Birmingham, Gateshead Leeds and Warrington. Jerry's Home Stores Starts 10 Jan, at 163-167 Fulham Road, London SW3 (0171 -5810 909) and at stores in Hampstead,

Knightsbridge (within Harvey Nichols, 0171-2456 251) and Kingston (0181-5495 393). Maples

Starts 26 Dec at stores nationwide. Excellent furniture pargains include the Maples two-seat sofa, reduced from £1,390 to £949 and the Lennox table and four chairs, down from £2,995 to £499.

STAR BARGAINS

Mulberry Hall Starts 2 Jan at Stonegate Hall, York (01904 620736) There is also a mailorder sale (0194H 620736) which starts on the 6 Jan. Buy all your elegant kitchen wares at great-value prices. Bargains melude the Spode Consul Cohalt pattern 24-piece dinner service, reduced from £740 to £492 and a Baccarat Moulin Rouge ice bucket, down from £1,400 to £935. Nice Irma's

Starts 3 Jan and continues for 4-6 weeks, at 46 Goodge Street, London W1 (0171-580 6921) with discounts of 10 per cent on all stock.

Runs 27 Dec until 19 Jan in all 15 stores around the country. Reductions will range between 20 and 50 per cent; among the most outstanding are the large Fasance hand-decorated tile-top table, reduced from £425 to £325 and the Shaker dining chairs in green, reduced from £75 to £59. Best of all, however, are the warm-toned "Steamed' Beech extending square dining tables with four rush-seated chairs, £395, plus an extra set of chairs for £125. Royal Worcester Spode

Runs 27 Dec until 25 Jan, at 126 Regent Street, London W1. Royal Worcester and Spode will be reduced by 20 per cent but there will also be some extraordinary crockery bargains

> "Don't pass over the basement bargains"

Sarah Bryant, buyer for finens# and home furnishings, Libertys.
In the sales I go for interiors
and fashion and I always at the
classics and basics + I by noting
get pulled by that bright orange,
mistake

I think you have to be a carry shopper to see the best out of the sales. It's best to than by going to the sale and deciding what you want. To apply the the overtired it is good to know the a cate where who call best to the sale and the sale and the sale are the sale and the sale are the where who call best to the sale are the where who call best to the sale are the where who call best to the sale are the where who call be sale to the sale are a cafe where your call because all and revine your spirits believe resuming strongers. Although the gods strong about her builting toy as sub-because they are those to

advise people not sutchinationly to pass over those real base of ment bargains that may have been wheeled out from two sees sons ago.

such as a dinner service for eight reduced from £1,000 to £100.

Runs 4 Jan until 1 Feb, at 135-139 Curtain Road, London EC2. Discounts on design-led contemporary furniture, lighting and accessories. Floor samples will be reduced by up to 50 per cent and there will be a 15 per cent discount on all items ordered during the sale.

MISCELLANEOUS

Starts 27 Dec and continues until the end of January, at Faverdale. Darlington, Co Durham (0800 591523). Generous discounts on exdisplay conservatories and mmerhouses.

The Back Store Runs 2 Jan until 31 Jan, at 330 King Street, London Wo. Some of the shop's best items will be on sale at 50 per cent below the normal price. Huge savings can be made on the best ergonomic office furniture available. CCA Galleries

Starts 28 Dec. at 8 Dover Street. London W1 (0171-499 6701). Reductions of up to 50 per cent on selected prints. A Donald Hamilton Fraser framed silk-screen print is reduced from £335 to £225.

Runs 2-12 Jan, at 106 Draycott Avenue, London SWI (0171-584 9449). Save 30-70 per cent on designer frames such as Alam Mikli. Matsuda, Yohji Yamamoto, Jean Paul Gaultier. Thierry Mugler and

Starts 27 Dec for 4-6 weeks at 11 St Christopher's Place, London W1. Reductions of 30-50 per cent. The sale will launch with a Bag and Belt party, where sample and end-of-line bags and belts will be available for £35 and £10 respectively. Touchstone Home Video Runs 30 Dec until 31 Jan at all stockists of Hollywood Pictures Home Video and Touchstone Home Video. See in the new year with Hollywood's best movies at great prices. There are 13 box-office-hit videos available such as Sinns and Quiz Show for only

Starts 28 Dec, at 124 Walcot Street, Bath (01225 314730) and in all branches and 2 Jan by mail order. Celebrating its thirtieth birthday, the children's toy retailer is offering a fantastic collection of imaginative items at brilliant discounts.

Only CUITS bring you all this

و مانيسن

ln.

: 3_



هد امن الاه

* THE INDEPENDENT

ONE CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHARF, LONDON E14 5DL 🂠 TEL: 0171-293 2000 💠 FAX: 0171-293 2435 / 0171-345 2435

MOMENTS THAT MADE THE YEAR

newspaper editor, said one great journalist, is a man who separates the wheat from the chaff - and prints the chaff. I hope that in this respect at least, The Independent has been thoroughly badly edited throughout 1996. But if the chaff content is ever too high, then I have no excuse; we have had great stories to report and great writers to report them. Our stroppy platoon of columnists have delighted and infuriated you in equal measure, which seems about right. We have taken and used some all-time great photographs and introduced new artists, including the fine, sinewy drawing of Chris Priestley (see below). I have made many changes to the newspaper, and even on the law of averages, it is possible that some of them have been for the better.

But enough of the pottery. What about its contents, the story of 1996? What stands out from the year, and what lessons might we draw?

Politics itself has been dominated by Europe, and by the political decay of the Major administration. Instant historical analysis can be hi-lariously wrong we should leave it a few decades to judge the effect of Britain's anti-Continental drift. But it looks as if in 1996 our political class concluded that European union, on the federal model championed by France

and Germany, was not for them.
That is a sweeping judgement. But the anti-Brussels fever has spread beyond the Conservative Party and infects much more than the single-currency question. Try to imagine a Tony Blair-led government confronting the hard choices
- swapping sterling for the euro, or acquiescing in more majority voting. Even if the Conservatives are in political shreds at the time, he will note the raucous and sentimental patriotism of the press and the self-righteous xenophobia aflame on the right of politics; and he will back off. The Tory anti-federalists may well lose their party the election: but I suspect they have already prevented Britain becoming a full participant in the kind of complete union planned for decades in Paris, Bonn and Brussels.

Withdrawal, which only a couple of years ago was a taboo topic, is now openly discussed by Conservative rightwingers and by the hectoring classes who have signed up for Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party, or the UK Independence Party. "Renegotiate" is the code word for an entirely new relationship with the EU. Unless the union radically changes from within, that seems likely to mean leaving it: even John Major has flirted, however ambiguously, with the idea of a breakdown in British-EU relations. We may come to that, though the decay of the Major administration has probably exaggerated the strength of the "antis" - they are more divided and less numerous than

their press support suggests. The Independent was founded 10 years ago as a firmly pro-European paper. We have agonised and argued about all this; in many ways, we would love to have been the paper that championed the single currency in the teeth of the John Bull brigade. (John Bulls, it should be added, who live abroad and are against the EU in part because they fear that it might try to regulate properly their global businesses.)

But there are deep democratic problems about having a pau-European economic policy. Like: what happens if a democratically elected national government wants to go a different way, and Private lives, public debate: The growing moral maze

is ordered not to? Like: how would people react in recessions when informed that the austerity policy which cost them a job or a pay cut, came not from elected governments but from a bank? Until there are answers here, we finally decided that monetary union could do more to wreck the union than to build it. This puts us in a minority of a minority: we are part of the pro-European minority in the media, and a minority anti-EMU voice in that. Too bad: the great lack in British and Continental politics has been a strongly pro-European voice which is insistent about democracy, asks for clarity and believes in the rights of

regions and small nations as well as big ones. In a small way, The Independent has tried to address this by arguing for a European confederacy, a less ambitious but more tightly drawn, constitutionbased political body, overseeing a Europe united by free trade and liberal, democratic values,

rather than vague aspirations and directives. That kind of union is not an impossible dream. The turmoil produced by the march to monetary union, in Britain and elsewhere, may produce a modified and gentler union. If it doesn't, it will surely spawn another generation of aggressively nationalist politics, here and on the Continent. That is unequivocally the last thing Europe needs. The slow falling-apart of British Conservative government under the pressures of the EU programme has not been an enjoyable or edifying spectacle. Granted, it has been more amusing than watching paint dry, or planks warp. But only just. The depression has not been lightened by stories about sleaze, parliamentary arrogance and political incompetence. The non-headline story of Parliament during the year is, however, the new mood and rules governing MPs' behaviour. The Scott report was not properly responded to by the Government - people hung on who should

have gone - but that and the Nolan Commission have changed the political weather. Only a few of the more arrogant and out-of-touch MPs still think they don't have a trust problem with voters. The new rules and the sternness with which David Willetts was treated by other MPs are perhaps a sign of the House slowly coming to order.

Such guarded optimism can't be applied to the BSE affair. As a study in the conduct of public policy, it will go down in history alongside the poll tax, and is about as cheering. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was acting both as a political lobby group for the beef industry and as its health watchdog; these proved incompatible. Maff doesn't deserve to survive what followed. The ministerial response was slow, evasive and at times chaotic. Departments wrangled in public. Newspapers led a public panie; there was too little rensoned and detailed argument. Everyone appealed to "science" and discovered that science was human, and had opinions too. Britain was quickly isolated in the EU and a mixture of pride and timidity meant that the fast, drastic decisions which might have limited the damage were fudged. And the national opportunity to look afresh at intensive farming and ask whether there isn't anoth-

er, better way to produce safe food seems to have been missed.

nother thing that struck me forcibly is now closely connected our private lives and public debates are becoming, Increasingly, in The Independent, as elsewhere, "news" isn't only a crashing plane or a politician's views; it is also about lifestyle, behaviour and individual choices. In the office, our liveliest arguments tend not be left versus right, but between social conservatives and libertarians, on issues such as censorship, morality, privacy, drugs and the new bio-technologies. Here, as with the more conventional issues, we have analysed and argued and I'm not ashamed of the results.

For, throughout the year past and, no doubt, through the year ahead, we have been struggling in the most savagely competitive newspaper market - the toughest in the world. We have faced Rupert Murdoch's price-cutting - an attempt to close us down, whatever his minions say - giveaway offers and awesome advertising campaigns. Privately, senior Tory and Labour politicians agree that Murdoch is using business tactics that wouldn't be allowed in other countries. But they are too frightened of his power to intervene. We will manage without them. Our core readership has stuck with us, forgiven me the mistakes of a novice editor and kept up a lively correspondence with our writers. The year ahead will bring the most important election Britain has faced for very many years. And that means that it will also bring ranting and obfuscation, xenophobia and propaganda, bullying and a certain amount of hysteria. We are a young newspaper. But the coming year, like the past decade. will be a time when Britain needs a decent, liberal, pro-European and above all independent newspaper, one with an open mind and no political baggage. I may be a little biased but it seems to be that this would be a less interesting and less informed country without The Independent. I hope that, as you sip your Boxing Day soda water, you think so too.

Andrew Marr



Sin, myth and the crusaders

he scene in the Dunblane gym cast its long dark shadow all down this year. We may nev-er have seen those children scattered in heaps like bloodsoaked dolls, but the image was burned into our consciousness in Technicolor. Moral tremors shook the nation and that fear entered into all discourse and politics. Echoes of Dunblane haunted other crimes: the kicking to death of a Corby girl by two 13-year-olds, the rural slaughter of Josie Russell's mother and sister, child abuse uncovered on a huge scale (much of it exposed by this newspaper), the machete attack on a nursery school teddy bears' picnic and the murder of the headmaster Philip Lawrence. It all looked like a world gone madly awry and it drove us half mad this year.

And yet Dunblane was an event without meaning or significance. It told us nothing about society, ourselves or our morals. A staring-eyed paedophile mis-fit with a hideous gun, Thomas Hamilton was useless even as a symbol of latter-day moral decadence. The human gene pool always has and always will throw up such madmen, so his pathetic life and death signified nothing new.

Looking for meaning, some wondered if his very insignificance in an uncaring alienated urban society made him do it. But even that thought led nowhere. Dunblane turned out to be a remarkably good society, close-knit, a genuine community that did what close-knit communities do with dangerous looking weirdos - marked him out and shunned him. That is part of what identifies them as good communities in the first place. That left nothing to blame but the inanimate gun and the knife. All in all. the aftermath of Dunblane has been devoid of lessons.

In the aftermath of Dunblane and the killing of Philip Lawrence, moral troopers shook the nation. But empty moralising is no substitute for real politics, writes Polly Toynbee

have the makings of a parable. But of it was a shamelessly self-serving encourwhat kind? Was it a story of old-agement of the mood of panic. fashioned good against modern evil? Or was it the respectable world attacked by the savage growing underclass? A brave and good headmaster running to protect a weak pupil is stabbed through the heart by a young thug who bears not just the mark of Cain, but of every single attribute of modern social decay. Learco Chindamo had it all: illegitimate son of a convicted Italian mafia man and a hopeless Filipina, living with his mother and her dead-beat unemployed lover lost in an alcoholic daze. Learco's only ambition was to make his mark on the mean streets: he has Never Should Have Been Born, What's He Doing in Our Country? and Modern Youth From Hell written all over him in banner

n the other corner stand the Lawrences, the ideal traditional family - dignified and good. Frances Lawrence's moving manifesto touched every chord, with words of both moral and social admonition. She saw Chindamo as a true son of modern Britain but that also meant a son of the deprived underclass that grew and multiplied in the Tory years.

All this sent the politicians off into a moral spin. Tony Blair wore his Christianity like a fluorescent Jesus Army band on his sleeve. Not to be outdone, John Major, until now admirably terse on the question of his own religion, suddenly found the kernel of his wizened Christian soul too. None

The family-values tumbrel rolled on. The frustration for the moralists is that there is so little practical policy to ap-ply family values to. There is agitated talk

of tinkering with the tax and benefits system to favour marriage, but few really think that will roll back the sexual revolution. That leaves curiously marginal oddities such as the films Crush and Lolita to bear the full weight of political and



evoid or lessons.

Worker, and better, so the indicates, the in war depend on the quanty of leader
worker, and better, so the indicates, the indicates, the image of Dunblane is burned into our minds in Photograph: Brian Hamis Government and, alas, the Labour Parship we get from the new government.

tabloid wrath. Virginia Bottomley, the Secretary of State for National Heritage. saw her chance to join in when she summoned programme controllers to listen

to her sermon on violence in television. But by and large, the deafening decibels of newspaper moralising are all mouth and mercifully little trousers - so far. The discerning Independent reader may have missed the relentless moral essays in the right-wing press but all year right-wing commentators have worked themselves into a frenzy. In a great turbulent stew, they brew together crime. violence, divorce, single motherhood, idleness on the dole, social security fraud, failing schools and wild children. Society seen through their glass darkly lurches on the edge of the abyss.

wo royal divorces and a new no-fault divorce law only seemed to confirm the Jeremiahs' worst forebodings. Marriage, they wailed, is the primal building block of society and now it is tumbling down around us like the walls of the temple.

Does all this matter? Yes, it does. For we live as much in our heads on myth and imagination as we live in the real world. If through mendacious reporting we create the illusion that we actually live in a worse world than we really do. then we subject ourselves to needless unhappiness and anxiety. Worse still, if we make the wrong diagnosis, we will take the wrong medicine and make problems worse, not better. So the moralists, the

of near-terminal sin. The prescription? A huge prison-building programme at colossal cost and a soaring prison population. It doesn't work? Then double the

dose and treble it until it does.

For the true causes of crime lie deep in the underclass. It is an age-old habit of those in the pulpit to dredge down there in the gutter for stories of terri-ble sin with which to give moral frights to the faithful in the pews. They like to pretend the exceptional problems of the poor are a sign of sin running all through society. But the correlation between the growing relative deprivation at the bottom and the soaring crime rate of recent years is blindingly obvious. Right across Europe the crime rate mirrors the boom-and-bust patterns of each economy - crime goes up in had times and dips in good times. The Jeremians, however, prefer to tell us that the gap between rich and poor has nothing to do with it - liberal values are to blame and we are reaping the whirlwind of the pernicious Sixties.

This year that age-old moral debate on the causes of crime reached a crescendo. No doubt it will reverberate wearily through the 1997 election. Empty moralising has become a substitute for real politics because morals are cheap while proper policies cost money. The question is whether after the election all this will be put behind us, or will the moral mood rumble on and demand real and punishing action, however use-less and irrelevant? The opinion poll evidence is that the great bulk of the population remains, and indeed becomes ever more liberal in its sexual attitudes - on divorce, cohabitation, abortion and homosexuality. On crime it will depend on the quality of leader-

Science gives birth to a multiple dilemma



A woman conceives octuplets after fertility treatment; another seeks to conceive using her dead husband's sperm. The ethics are muddled, writes Paul Vallely

xenotransplantation, from the people. These viruses cause Greek xenos meaning strange, different or foreign.

Next month a report from a committee chaired by lan species to another. HIV, the Kennedy, professor of medical retrovirus which can lead law and ethics at King's College, to Aids, is often assumed to London, will recommend that renotransplants should be permitted; that pigs' organs – the The ideal animal to supply mitted; that pigs' organs - the animals' hearts and kidneys can be surgically placed inside

human beings.
The Nuffield Council on Bioethics made the same recmmendation earlier this year. The Government, however, has chosen to leak the Kennedy report to indicate that ministers

The word they have coined is viruses to cross from pigs to few problems to their natural hosts, but can cause havoc when they cross from one have crossed to humans from

> organs to humans would be the chimpanzee, whose DNA differs from ours by less than 2 per cent. But the Nuffield committee suggested that, on ethical grounds, we could not use apes and monkeys for transplant, because primates are too close to humankind. Yet such moral scruples, they con-cluded, need not apply to pigs. A similar issue was raised

> over genetically engineered maize and sova. Perfectly safe, say the scientists employed by the American firms which make them. And many of those without vested interests agree: John Habgood, the scientist, theologian and former Archbishop of York, once told me that he would happily eat a chop from a lamb which had been engineered to include a human gene - for what difference could one gene make among so many millions of lamb genes?

Yet many of us remain uneasy. We may become more so as our pluralistic society makes it even more difficult to make judgements about about what is, in fact, natural And how can we reach a consensus when our society has no common moral language? An increasing number of cases over the past 12 months have thrown this dilemma into relief.

At the start of the year, the parents of a brain-damaged child applied to the High Court for permission to withdraw his food, and so allow him to die. At the end of the year we have concerns over animal organ transplants. In between, some 3,000 frozen embryos were destroyed: a woman had one of her two twins aborted; and another refused the selective abortion which doctors recommended when she conceived octuplets while on fertility treatment. A third unsuccessfully demanded the right to have a postbumous baby using the sperm of her dead husband. And then a 51-year-old grandmother daughter's baby.

The questions which such ought to have been simple enough to formulate. Is it safe? Is it natural? Is it legal?
Is it kind? Is it right? And do happy to endorse such aswe have to answer "Yes" to all of those questions before we proceed in such cases?

Some of the cases did not present new issues so much as dramatise old ones in a new way. The case of the woman who wanted rid of one of her twins was significant because it made many of those who back the "pro-choice" position feel uneasy. It confronted them with the essential arbitrariness of abortion, particularly so when it was disclosed that the woman concerned was a middle-class, high-income wife. What had been presented as a poverty issue was exposed as a

onvenience one. Other cases presented new

The expiry of the deadline for the storage of Britain's first frozen embryos faced us with the consequences of a decision made five years ago. There were echoes of the abortion debate in all this: this was human life, but were they human

The new underlying ethical issue of ownership was large-ly neglected. And without such a discussion we may yet face rows over the ownership of genetic material - for example, in the case of the woman in the US who recently conceived and then aborted in order to produce foetal material for use n the treatment of her father's Alzheimer's disease.

We are increasingly looking to science as a device to delay the need to face up to the metaphysical issues at the heart of mortality and infertility alike.

And all this is set in the context of National Health Service reforms where the internal market has strengthened in the public mind the link between medicine and money, at the expense of a link with morals. Combine that with the growth of our "rights" culture - in which all unfulfilled desires seem to be seen as an abuse of human rights - and you get the test-tube pioneer Lord Winston

trying to have the law changed to allow Diane Blood to be impregnated with sperm taken from her dying husband.

Traditional British prejudices cloud the issue here. The sympathy quotient for Mrs Blood was boosted by the "one-of-us" factor. She was an articulate middle-class advertising executive. Contrast that with the case of Mandy Allwood who conceived octuplets while on fertility treatment. The controversy surrounding her refusal to undergo the selective abortions her doctors recommended, all the foetuses, was reinforced by her deal with the publicist Max Clifford and the News of the World.

Ms Allwood was widely deemed an unsuitable candidate for fertility treatment in a child already, and an abortion, was not in a stable rela-tionship, did not tell her partner she was having the treatment, and had sex when doctors told her not to. Such how society should decide who should get fertility treatment.

Unstated assumptions and inconsistencies bedevil the entire bioethics debate. One of the most alarming examples lies in the developments on euthanasia this year.

The parents of two-year-old new territory when they decided to go to the High Court son. Another, anonymous, administer a lethal injection to their brain-damaged baby whom doctors predicted would die in infancy.

Thomas Creedon died before his case came to court: the other case has vet to be heard. But what the slippage reveals are some unchallenged as-sumptions about what constitutes a "worthwhile" life.

6 Inconsistencies have bedevilled the bioethics debate 9

In Britain there are hospitals where - although officials will not publicly acknowledge this - it is impossible for those sumptions. But it is dangerous when they go unarticulated and are therefore never sub-

jected to public challenge. But choice cannot be all. We have some important moral intuitions about not killing people, about the sacredness of life, about not messing with nature, about our interrelatedness, and our responsibility for one another. If these intuitions were not inherent in our make up, then what is possible and permissi-ble could slide into what is expected or even inevitable.

The danger is that in leaving such decisions to the individual some important human values may be undermined.

In the case of the surrogate grandmother, we may ask what harm can it do when all are happy? But there are oth-er questions. How would the daughter have felt if her 51-year-old mother had died during the pregnancy? How would they cope if the child were handicapped? Or later abused? What would have happened if a pre-natal scan showed abnormality and the mother wanted to abort but the grandmother disagreed?

Just because nothing went wrong this time is no answer. Moral responsibility requires us to think beyond the immediate. The argument against sur-

rogacy is that it makes women vulnerable – poor women to economic exploitation and grandmothers, now, to emotional manipulation. To warn thus is not to adopt a Luddite position. The risk analysis which the scientists have done on xenotransplantation may indicate that the benefits greatly outweigh the possible harm. Most of us would be content to take expert advice on such matters. But it has to be advice: we have to be given the choice on whether we want to eat genetically altered maize. Most importantly that choice has to be an informed one. If it is not we may have to pass that choice to a higher authority.

£13.99 **JUNK TRUNK** Clear Roller Box ¥ Save £4 ﴿ وَرَجُولِكِ Was **Fun Trunk** Was 纤纤 **FUN TUB Translucent** Choice of colours Was-£5:77 Save £1:10 £2.99 **TRANSLUCENT FILE BOX** FOLDING **Available** CRATE **TUFF CRATE** in Raspberry. Choice of colours Jade or Cobalt CURYER Was £19-77 Save £4 UNIBOX £9.99 Choice of colours £6·99 Was 53 77 Save £1 JUMBO MR CART Stack A Box Primary Pack of 3 colours Choice of Was 51777 colours Save £3 ARIZONA TRUNK Blue or Green Was 59-79 Save £2 CATABRIER'S BOUSE & CARDEN CENTRES

MONDAY-THURSDAY 8AM - 8PM - FRIDAY 8AM - 9PM - SATURDAY 8AM - 8PM - SUNDAY 10AM - 4PM - NEW YEAR'S EVE 8AM - 6PM - BOXING DAY AND NEW YEAR'S DAY! 10AM - 6PM.

infect ad co

Infected by mad cows and Europhobes

Blair has been canny, but the Tories dug themselves ever deeper into the mire, says Donald Macintyre

ou are a Tory Cabinet minister. You are ambitious. You are spending Christ-mas at home thinking in deepest privacy of what 1997

The state of the s

10 83 %

THE BUTTER

the Children

in the quiet

100

2017

Inconsists

nave bedei

the bioeth

debate'

You look at the opinion polls. What does the phrase "election campaign" make you think about first? Is it (a), the gruelling prospect of three weeks stomping up and down Britain straining every fibre of your body to help secure your party a record fifth term in of-fice against all the odds? Is it (b), a good job at Lazards or (c), something you would pre-fer not to think about at all? Or is it (d), another election altogether: the battle for the votes of the Tory party to succeed John Major and become its eighth leader since 1945?

If it's (b) or (c), you've prob-ably got one of those marginal seats which look doomed. If it's (d), you're one of at least half a dozen senior members of the Cabinet, who thinks that he or she can be leading the party by the end of the year. If it's (a) you're probably John Major. That, in sum, is how bad 1996 was for the party which has governed Britain since 1979. It wasn't the crises themselves, though goodness knows there were enough of those. It was more that this was the year that the economic recovery was finally supposed to trans-

late into votes and didn't. It's why Tory MPs would discuss the prospect of electoral defeat with an openness, sometimes even with a relish, that has been unknown in any party since Labour was in its darkest days in the early 1980s. It is why some of the brightest stars on what was once thought to have been the left of the parcourt the neo-Thatcherite right wing which they believe will dominate the party after polling day. Perhaps the speech Mr Dorrell made back in May - not long after the Tories lost an awe-inspiring 567 seats in the local elections - will prove, in its own way, a turning point.

state-shrinker and Eurosceptic in the same speech, bewilderingly proclaiming that
Margaret Thatcher had really
margaret Thatcher had really
gravity on a heroic scale. been a "one nation" Conservative. By that time of course, most people had already forgotten that in January she her-

self had witheringly dismissed the term in a speech of her own which derided the recent defection of Emma Nicholson to the Liberal Democrats, but which also managed to be no-tably unhelpful to Mr Major. Only Ken Clarke, and though he was less public about it, Michael Heseltine, stubbornly refused to trim like this. More of that in a moment.

Consider first the level of Tory indiscipline given that this was the last full year before an election. It was that on issues as disparate as divorce and the sale of MoD homes, large groups of rebellious backbenchers were prepared to flout the iron law that voters distrust divided parties. Against this background perhaps one Tory rebel qualifies as backbencher of the year for being - literal-

6 Mr Blair had at times little to do than watch the disintegration 🤊

– on the side of virtue: it was Quentin Davies, who voted against the Government over the Scott arms-to-Iraq report. And it was Mr Davies who helped Parliament to start cleaning up its act with a relentless cross-examination which exposed the untruth at the beart of the testimony by the minister David Willetts been tampering with a quasijudicial inquiry into sleaze. real damage; even as the country absorbed the shock of Dun-

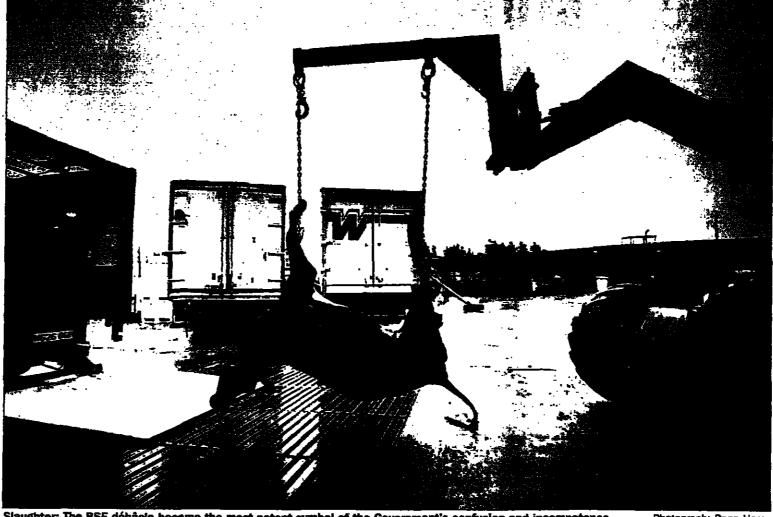
Health defily became at once prove that the gun lobby need-

But above all, of course, it was Europe that made the disintegration look terminal, that became for so many an issue bigger than party. The coalition of phobes, sceptics and those bullied by both, refused to give up, as Mr Clarke had predicted they would when he agreed in April - despite having seriously contemplated resignation - that any future decision to join EMU would be put to a referendum. In return he secured a deal written in blood that Major would not rule out joining EMU - a deal that the sceptics then set about trying to unravel in a campaign which still isn't over. What's more, the boundaries of the argument changed. Gradually, it became possible to talk about withdrawal from the EU. For this, the catalyst - even more than the fear inspired by Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party - was probably the

The BSE débâcle became at once the most potent symbol of government incompetence and the crucible on which a muscular new anti-

Europeanism was forged on the Tory right. The Government declared a war on Europe it couldn't win - with an Alice in Wonderland policy of non-cooperation which amounted only to vetoing those proposals which it would have previously have approved because they did no damage to Britain. It is tempting simply to blame Mr Major for allowing all this to get out of control. But

that fails to give enough cred-it to Tony Blair. True, Mr Blair had at times to do little more than watch the disintegration. ble free in 1996. There were achievement. even some symmetries: as In it, the Secretary of State for Committee set about trying to interview in the New Statesman.



Slaughter: The BSE débâcle became the most potent symbol of the Government's confusion and incompetence

Photograph: Bnan Harns

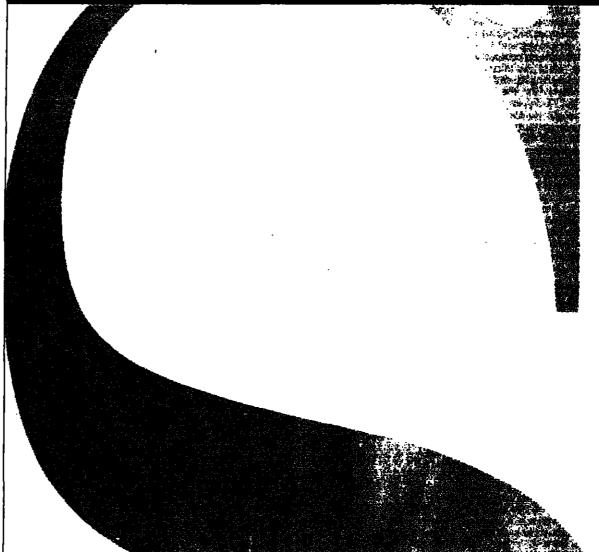
John Major had his own worst week (the most recent of many) in December which began when a ham-fisted attempt to re-open the EMU issue infuriated his Chancellor and ended when the MP John Gorst threatened to desert in defence of his local hospital. Tony Blair had his worst week back in January when Harriet Harman created an earthquake by sending her son to a grammar school. There are still after-tremors and more may

follow in the election campaign. But that doesn't alter the fact that throughout this year much of the Tory party has behaved as if it didn't expect to win for the very reason that Mr Blair had made Labour look convincingly electable again.

Ignoring the siren voices urging him to take more electoral risks-on Europe, on tax, and on spending - he has painstakingreinforced the theme of the draft manifesto which he un-veiled in July: that Labour will not promise more than it can deliver. He underlaid it, what's more, with a subliminal message that he will deliver more than he

Mr Davies got precious little Lady Thatcher had under- exaggerate. The Tories will not thanks for it. But it was his col-mined Mr Major in January - waste the £10m they intend to leagues who were doing the leaving until October her elec-real damage: even as the countoral endorsement of Mr Ma-Labour cannot yet be sure of try absorbed the shock of Dun-blane, a majority of Tory MPs on the Home Affairs Select the Labour leader in a recent began it. And that, they never

DEBENHAMS



Tory antics that redefined the meaning of sleaze

sociated with bonking. The rubric was roughly this: Tory politician bonks someone not his wife; is found out and exposed; wife stands by him; ridiculous or even apocryphal detail emerges (toes, telephone calls, Chelsea shirt, woman was 16-year-old researcher, woman was a constituent, woman was man); politician resigns; Prime Minister regrets the trivialisation of politics; archbishop regrets lack of

moral lead by politicians. This was sleaze that required no great effort of intellect or expenditure of time on the part of those who commented upon it (nor indeed, upon the part of those who participated in it). It made good, simple news copy day after day. Alas, it was too good to last. 1996 furnished us with only one ministerial death through fornication, and the minister unsportingly resigned before we had time for the toes and the

What we had instead was the 1,800 pages of the Scott report into the arms-for-Iraq affair. Published 39 months after the inquiry was set up, the report itself furnished lazy journalists with precious little headline material. This was because the Devil lay not in the accusations against individual ministers, but in the detailed picture of how policy is formed, altered, applied and communicated new names to all our lips. The in Britain.

What Scott attacked was the culture of secrecy and the Important stuff, but not sexy.

Sent largish sums of money in What was just as revealing as the direction of Mr Hamilton assumption that there was no any change. al restraints on the executive.

n the early, uncomplicated days of "back to basics". the word "sleaze" came to be assessible as the progress of such sensitive inquiries. This assumentable is a sensitive inquiries. This assumentable is a sensitive inquiries.

Government chose to handle its publication. By giving the opposition three-and-a-half hours in a guarded basement of the Department of Trade to read the report before it was unveiled in the House, and by using that time themselves to produce a spin upon it (a spin later condemned by Scott) suggesting that they had been completely exonerated, the Government behaved arrogantly and shabbily.

It worked, too. In the debate 10 days after the publication—and despite a spectacular speech by Labour's Robin Cook, the Government lost the argument, but won the vote - with a majority of one. And that was that.

With Scott out of the way, we all took a sleaze break until the party conferences. MPs used the time to defy their party leaders, public opinion and the fatuous rumblings of the moralistic press to vote themselves a substantial pay increase. No strings (such as a reduction in the number of MPs, or evaluation of the work

they did) were attached. Then, as autumn fell, the sudden abandonment by the Tory MP Neil Hamilton of his libel suit against the Guardian (arising out of the cash-forquestions affair) brought two first was that of the grandaddy of Westminster lobbyists. Ian Greer. A man of great and (according to some) inexplicable generosity, Mr Greer had

the report itself was the way the and others - for no particularly good reason, he told the ifies a party that has been in

> Embarrassed MPs of all political colours were suddenly discovered to be involuntary recipients of Mr Greer's unsolicited largesse. The Labour health spokesman Chris Smith, for instance, had had 200 notes delivered to his local party to assist in fighting a general elec-tion campaign. Why had this money been donated? No one

6 In the early days, the word was linked only with bonking 9

knew. What had Mr Greer (a lifelong Conservative) hoped to get for his outlay? Nothing at all: some gave to Oxfam, some gave to Chris Smith. The second name was that

of the cerebral MP for Havant, David Willetts, whose note written when a junior whip suggesting that the Tory chair-man of the House of Commons privileges committee investi-gating Mr Hamilton "wanted advice", indicated government intervention in the workings of

an independent body.

Mr Willetts, like William Waldegrave (criticised by Scott) an intellectual sharing a vessel with the rough deck-

very low-level and minor form of corruption, and one that typpower too long.

The second was to have

written it down. And the third was to have attempted to explain it away with a schoolbovish evasion that insulted the intelligence of at least one of the Tories on the committee, Quenun Davies, who had voted against the Government over Scott. Mr Willetts' famous phrase of self-exculpation, that want" had meant "stood in need of" (as in the Austen phrase "must be in want of a wife") rather than "required", demonstrated a

rather desperate dishonesty.

Meanwhile, the Government showed what it had learnt from the handling of the Scott report, by leaking both the contents of the Cullen report on the massacre at Dun-blane, and its proposed legislative response, while once more denying the Opposition a chance to examine Cullen until the day of its publication.

And so we limp towards the general election. Aspects of Lord Nolan's 1995 report have been implemented (notably the revised register of interests), but Parliament functions no better than it did. the executive is largely unscrutinised, and those who hold power are obstinately determined to hang on to it. From where I sit, day after day, it is hard to see anything other than crushing defeat - followed hands of politics, seems to than crushing defeat - followed by the utmost pressure on a



Most offers available in all Debenhams stores including Browns of Chester. Stock subject to availability. *Scotland starts 26 December, †Except Newcastle and Stevenage. http://www.debenhams.co.uk

The bombs that blew away peace in Ulster

Euphoria turned to dismay with the return of terrorist bombings, writes David McKittrick

t has truly been an an-nus horribilis for Northern Ireland, an awful, dispiriting year: 1996 opened with an IRA ceasefire and the possibility of real talks; it closes with the Government and the republicans at loggerheads, and more bombs feared at any moment. Half a year's worth of po-

litical talks, sans Sinn Fein, have proved almost entirely unproductive, inducing even more cynicism in an already mistic population. The joy of peace has been re-placed by the fear of more war. And yet it is still possible to

hear, in republican and other circles, people saying in their flat Belfast monotone: "It's over." It is certainly a tense and dangerous time; there is, almost certainly, more death and destruction to come; yet overall the sense is still that the

6 There is a faint light at the end of the tunnel 9

troubles are moving towards their end.

It is impossible to disprove the opposite theory, which is that the troubles are endless and the future holds not only eternal deadlock but perpetual violence too. Yet even this terrible year had in it what can be seen as signs of hope for medium-term prospects.

They were, admittedly,

small enough signs, and they were eclipsed by the many setbacks. The year opened well enough, just a month after the near-rapturous visit to Belfast by Bill Clinton, when the IRA ceasefire still held. But on Friday 9 February the IRA blew up Docklands, east London, killing two men, and euphoria was replaced by dismay.

The year was punctuated by violence. Among other attacks, the IRA tried to blow up Hammersmith bridge, in west London, in April, and in June Lisburn, County Antrim.

A soldier died in the Lisparticular were aimed at causing as many deaths as possible. Yet it is also clear that dur-

ing 1996 the IRA was fighting, in its terms, only half a war, maintaining a level of activity which fell far short of its full capacity for maynem. People have died and destruction has been caused, yet the terrorists did not crank the conflict up to pre-1994 ceasefire levels.

The signs are that this re-stricted level of activity is intion that the ceasefire would be restored if immediate negotiations were guaranteed.
The SDLP leader met the

IRA within weeks of the Docklands bomb. Within a few months he and Gerry Adams had put together "Hume-Adams Mark 2," a draft for-mulation to be taken to John Major. Mr Hume shuttled back and forward between Mr Adams and Mr Major, and in July, the Prime Minister gave Mr Hume the terms of a possible re-statement. In October, Mr Hume gave Mr Major an-other re-formulation; a week later, Mr Major replied to it.

It did not offer the republicans immediate entry into allparty talks, stipulating instead that any new ceasefire must be followed by an indeterminate monitoring period. On 28 November, Mr Major published his reply, and a week ago confirmed this was his "last definitive word on the subject before the election". This seems to have in effect closed

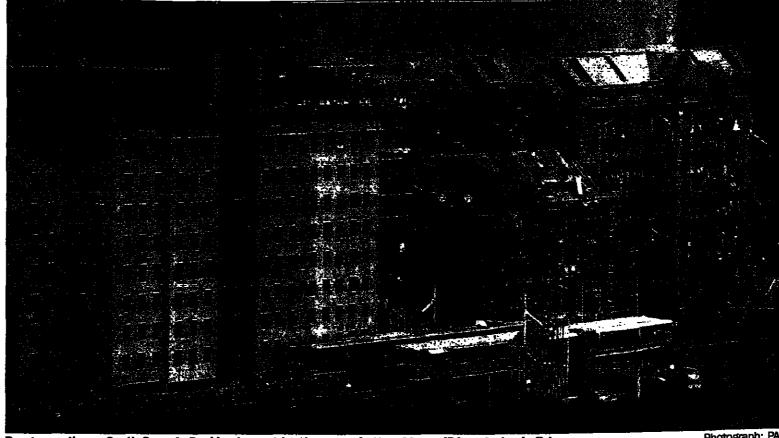
the negotiation. Opinions will forever vary on whether the Prime Minister's

it killed an Irish detective and attitude was dictated by high-blew up Manchester city cen-minded considerations of natre. In July, it had 10 tonnes tional security and protection of of explosives seized in London; the democratic processes, or by in October, it set off two car a rather more ignoble desire not bombs inside the army North-ern Ireland headquarters at benchers and Unionist MPs. But the real surprise was not that the republican overture had

burn attack, no one died in been turned down, but that it had Manchester, but in each case been made in the first place, deit was only good fortune which spite the high risk of failure. This prevented large-scale loss of suggests that the republicans - life. The Lisburn bombings in like the rest of nationalist Ireland - believe the way ahead is not through restarting war, but a revival of the peace process.

The IRA ceasefire ended in

1996, but the peace process provided a model for an exit from the troubles. This is the difference between now and the 1970s and 1980s: in those days, violence seemed literally without end. Today, despite the bombs, there is an assumption that it will, af-ter the election, be tried again; that there is a faint light distended to send a political cernible at the end of the tunnel; message. The republicans sent and that it is not illogical to be an explicit message to London a short-term pessimist and a via John Hume: the proposi- medium-term optimist.



Dangerous times: South Quay, in Docklands, east London, was shattered by an IRA explosion in February



5-YEAR WARRANTY

For real peace of mind, a single premium payment guarantees five years' comprehensive

cover against product breakdown, if, after five years, you've made no claim.

you can get all your warranty money back in full.†





CRUSADER REVI mas £129.99 prev

TRICITY BENDIX 1000 SPRI WASHER DRYEE

ZANUSSI RULSZEDS

SAVE UP TO £130

ZANUSS! 4.3 GROSS CULT UPRIGHT FREEZER

HOTPOINT 120 GROSS CULT FROST-FREE

SAVE UP TO £250

STOVES GAS COOKER

SAVE UP TO 50% ON CLEANERS

Hyganic bag removal Cord resend button Model SC184 ALPRIA, was 2159.99 PANASONIC UPRIGHT CLEANER 750 watts suction power

ELECTROLUX, WIDETRACK UPRIS

£5 MILLION STOCK CLEARANCE

Choose from a wide range of ex-display, shop soiled and refurbished products, all at clearout prices. All guaranteed for 12 months.



ATWA & DISC MULTIPLAY CO MID! HE FE

PRICE PROMISE: some offer an sale locally at a lower price, we'll willingly reland the

SAVE £10 ON THIS BT CORDLESS PHONE

BT CORDLESS TELEPHONE

Men plumb the depths of bad behaviour

Jack O'Sullivan relates a chronicle of atrocity, sin and lies

Let's face it: 1996 looked like image of decline. And the a bad year for British males. Royal College of Nursing fur-Rather than a chronicle of therelaborated the picture of great achievement it seemed men as pathetic inadequates to mark the descent of man.

Thomas Hamilton and the women, they eat rubbish, killings in Dunblane. Then drink excessively and smoke Horrett Campbell attacked a too much. As a result, they die group of toddlers with a 2ft ma-chete. These events further raised public anxiety about the safety of children with men. So did the news earlier this month that one-third of Britain's police forces were investigating allegations of abuse by pae-dophiles in their children's homes. That's men, again.

Euro 96 offered some relief from men behaving horribly, a temporary boost to those who keep faith in male heroism. Victory against the Netherlands, dignity in a narrow defeat by Germany and the elegance of Paul Gascoigne's great goal against Scotland were reminders of when men could feel proud. And then Gazza blew it. He beat up his wife, Sheryl, and reminded us of the modern shame attached to maleness.

He was not the only hero to tumble. Until "Randy Roddy" hit the headlines in Septem-ber after running off with a divorced woman, he was the much-admired Roderick to say about the nature of Wright, Roman Catholic Bishmen? Nothing, MPs and othop of Argyll and the Isles, a model of male celibacy and trustworthiness. Then it transpired that he had another mistress, who had borne a son, never publicly acknowledged by the bishop.

And the other male figureheads? Prince Charles, the man who would lead the rest of British men, looked out of touch and out of date, distant from his children and alienated from his society as he diseem even to understand why about handguns after the atrocities of Dunblane. unrelentingly negative.

In 1997, men should start

when it reported last August The lowest point was that when men live without sooner. In short, take away nanny and men end up with one foot in the grave.

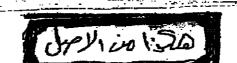
So men have a problem with the way the lead their lives and it causes difficulties for everyone else. But the biggest problem in 1996 was their si-lence. On an individual level, many are experimenting with new ways of working, of being parents, of being masculine. But, unlike the days when feminism set its agenda, they are talking little to each other about what they are doing. There is dearth of leader-

ship. It was not possible in 1996 to name a single significant

male public figure who articulated a fresh vision for men, a new dignified, useful and satisfying way to define them-selves. Thinking men abdicat-ed that responsibility, preferring to focus their energy on other forms of politics. What does our maledominated Parliament have er male public figures can speak about Labour and the Tories, about religion and foreign affairs. But not about

themselves as men.
So women filled the vacuum and, as they have done for two decades, told the story of men in 1996. Good for them. Not so useful for men. The picture that prevailed was inevitably stereotypical rather than innovative, partial rather than complete, reflecting a fevorced his wife. As for his male rather than a male perfather, Prince Philip did not spective. And its dominant images - abusive men, feckless the rest of us were so upset fathers, criminal boys - were

It all made for a fairly sad telling their own story.



SAVE

LOWER THAN SALE

PRICE - 3 DAYS ONLY

Photograph: PA SAVE £150 SAVE £100 ON THIS NICAM STEREO TELEVISION SAVE £30 ON THIS NICAM STEREO VIDEO

Clinton romped home tapping a mood of peace and prosperity, but in an increasingly isolationist US, writes Rupert Cornwell

America ruled by reasons for the quiet life



All things to all men: Americans opted for the status quo when they elected Bill Clinton as President for a second term in November

he Oxford English Dic-tionary defines the word quadrennial as meaning 1) lasting four years, and 2) recurring every four years. They apply in equal measure to the event which dominated Ameri-

dential election, technically held on 5 November but for which jockeying was under way before Bill Clinton had been inaugurated for a first term in January 1993.

But all these mighty end-eavours resulted in anti-climax. Once the retired general Colin Powell, the strongest potential Republican candidate, announced in November 1995 that he would not run, Mr Clinton moved into a lead which hardly varied between the Iowa caucuses in mid-February, the kick-off to the primary season, and voting day.
The Republican challenger,

Bob Dole, notwithstanding a singularly inept campaign, lost by only eight points.

The margin would almost certainly have been larger but for the late-breaking controversy over seamy foreign fundraising by the Democrats, which raised familiar ethical doubts about Mr Clinton, and may have cost his party its chance of regaining at least partial control of Congress. But the basic message sent

by voters was plain. America is prosperous and at peace. Its citizens are increasingly conser-vative, but reasonably content with their lot, and unnerved at what an ideologically driven Republican party with unfet-tered control of the executive and legislative branches might

do. Thus they opted for the status quo, making Mr Clinton the first Democrat since Roosevelt to win a second term. Or rather, nominally Democratic. it by listening.

politician (and his greatest weakness) is his capacity to be all things to all men. His campaign stole traditional Republican themes by the bucketful - among them law and order, tougher welfare rules and a balanced budget – at one point producing the paradox of stock and bondprice declines on the rare occasions when the Republicans, once the party of Wall Street. seemed to have a sniff of victory. Expect him now to run the most conservative Demo-cratic administration of the 20th century. And that, the election showed, is exactly what the country wants, whatever its feelings about Bill

His greatest strength as a

Clinton the man. But contentment breeds an inward gaze. To say America has turned isolationist would be an exaggeration. Despite the contempt for the United Nations that culminated in this month's shoddy ousting of its Secretary-General, Boutros Boutros Ghali, the Clinton administration is well aware that while the US is the world's indispensable nation, it also needs a functioning UN. If anything, US involvement

in peace-keeping and in other multilateral missions has increased over the past four years. You just wouldn't guess

In the campaign, apart from Mr Dole's periodic denuncia-tions of "Boootros Boootros Ghali", and his supposed quest to wrest control of the US military from the Pentagon, foreign policy was barely men-

6 His strength is his capacity to be all things to all men 9

tioned. "Has anyone got a for-eign affairs question?" pleaded the moderator Jim Lehrer towards the end of the second presidential debate in San Diego. After a silence, there was a rather sheepish inquiry about trade with Japan. The moment encapsulated two truths: that the demise of the Soviet Union has taken national security off the table, and that if Clinton foreign policy has a constant, it is a focus on international economics.

But while foreign policy may not have affected the election, it certainly affected foreign-policy making. By no

coincidence, Mr Clinton's one important pronouncement of the campaign, a commitment to an enlarged Nato by 1999, came in Cleveland, Ohio home to great numbers of people of East European ori-gin, swing voters in a crucial state. In the Middle East. American diplomacy was put on hold: what president wants skirmish with Israel in an

election year? By luck rather than judge-ment, the administration got away with it. An uncommon and doubtless transient calm settled on the world in 1996. Despite the jolt to the Middle East peace process administered by Likud's election victory in May, most Washington foreign policy objectives survived the year unscathed. Boris Yeltsin was re-elected.

Peace of a kind prevails in Bosnia, and Mr Clinton's decision to keep US troops in the Balkans for a further 12 to 18 months raised hardly an eyebrow. Relations with China seem on the mend, while Fidel Castro was, as always, an irritant. This time, though, his antics, by enabling Mr Clinton to talk tough on Havana to the Cuban-American community in Florida, may have helped the President carry a traditionally Republican state in November. The Mexican peso did not col-

lapse, and Haiti did not

explode. About the only shots military were the 44 cruise missiles launched against Iraq in early September. The end of history may not have arrived yet, but in Washington this year

it has sometimes seemed so, In fact, none of the basic questions has been properly answered. Internationalism and isolationism continue their ageold struggle for America's soul. Despite Mr Clinton's promise, Nato enlargement remains a fiercely debated topic. Nor has a framework for American intervention abroad been established. Think-tanks and distinguished columnists yearn for a "Clinton Doctrine", an articulated foreign policy blueprint. Certainly, the dour and cautious Warren Christopher was never likely to provide one. Perhaps that will change with the forceful new Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright, and the greater interest in foreign policy to be expected from a second-term President. But here too, the "quadren-

nial" rule applies. Mr Clinton has not even been sworn in for a second term. In the meantime, quietly yet unmistakably, Vice-President Al Gore and a clutch of Republicans are al-ready manocuvring for election

Washington Correspondent

Spin doctors and surgeons save the comeback kid

t is only a slight exaggeration to say that 1996 was the year that Boris Yeltsin rose from the dead. One year ago, politically and physically, he seemed a terminally ill patient, whose chance of winning a second stint in the Kremlin were about as remote as the likelihood of his appearance on the centre court at Wimbledon for a game of his beloved tennis.

Yet the new year will dawn to find Mr Yeltsin back in office again, having – as far as we can tell – mended his diseased heart. His biggest blunder, the war in Chechnya, has finally ended (although the republic remains volatile). General Alexander Lebed, the political statements of the control of the cian who so openly aspired to jump into his shoes, is sidelined.

And many of his other opponents are beginning to look as though they might turn into nothing more lethal than De-nis Healey's famous dead sheep. It is too soon to say that the Russian President's comeback is assured, but the very fact that he has survived is nothing short of astonishing. Cast your mind back, if you will. This

time 12 months ago, the Communists had just swept to victory in parliamentary elections. Mr Yeltsin was a re-mote and ailing figure, being nursed in a sanatorium after his second heart attack of the year. Only one in 10 voters had supported the government-backed party, "Our Home Is Russia".

party. "Our Home Is Russia". Body bag after body bag was being flown back from Chechnya, each one a reminder of the awful cost of sending troops into the republic a year earlier for a war that some say has cost as many as 100,000 lives. Economic gloom, cynicism over privatisation, rampant crime, post-imperial depression, and nostalgia for the social safe-ty net of Soviet system, fused together to send Mr Yeltsin's poli ratings plunging to a dismal 5 per cent.

With a presidential election loom-

ing in the summer, the odds pointed to a future in which Russia would be governed by the inexperienced Communist leader, Gennady Zyuganov, whose true political creed was uncertain - it vecred from moderate to diedin-the wool nationalist, according to his audience - and whose entourage in-cluded some alarmingly regressive elements. The West was worried. So were those who benefited from the collapse

communist and nationalist clothes, making sacrifices of politicians who were perceived to be pro-western, notably Andrei Kozyrev, the Foreign Minister. The same motive lay behind They revived the President, but can he resuscitate Russia, asks Phil Reeves



Dancing bear: Yeltsin fought a spirited campaign Photograph: Reuters

Chechen conflict with brute force, a fatal strategy which was so humiliatingly illustrated by the siege at Pervo-mayskoye when several days of pound-ing by Russian Grad missiles, helicopter rockets, special forces, and tanks failed to suppress a small force of lightlyarmed Chechens who were holed up of Communism, notably big business.
Yet the Kremlin seemed to be at a lin the end, many of the rebels – including their leader, Salman Raduyev

You could argue that Mr Yeltsin was saved by his doctors from an "annus horribilis" that would have made the Queen's famous bad year look like a

escaped.

his wild and bloody efforts to end the garden party. A huge role was, of course, played by the surgeons who carried out his quintuple by-pass operation in November - after he finally publicly admitted to the world what we had always suspected: that he had a serious heart condition. But, before that,

it was the doctors from the Department

of Spin who saved his skin.

As the count-down to the elections began, a team of advisers, headed by Anatoly Chubais and supported by a coteric of Moscow business magnates, set about resurrecting his fortunes. Helped by a national media that was generally willing to sacrifice impartiality to defend its own interests, they lavished

millions on a ruthless publicity com-paign. Mr Yeltsin was transformed from a tired old man into a whirling dervish. who travelled the length and breadth of the land dispensing (later broken) promises of money and favours.

Mr Yeltsin staged a last-minute clear-out from the Kremlin of the hardline "party of war" - including General Pavel Grachev, the Defence Minister, and the head of the presidential guard, General Alexander Korzhakov, his close friend. Only days before the election's final round on 3 July, he disappeared from view again, crippled by heart trouble. But by then, the turn-around had been secured.

His return to seclusion precipitated a power struggle which owes its beginnings to one of the strangest twists of the year: the rise and fall of General Alexander Lebed. The ex-paratrooper eneral was catapulted to power by the Kremlin. When he won an impressive 10.7 million votes, Mr Yeltsin made him national security adviser and secretary of the Security Council in the hope of inheriting his support in the run-off.

It was a short-lived liaison. The gen-eral made little secret of his ambition to take over from Mr Yeltsin, whom he began to criticise with increasing openness - particularly when the President was slow to embrace his crucial peace deal with the Chechens. But his main opponent was the President's new chief-of-staff. Anatoly Chubais, who assisted by an albance with Tatyana Dyachenko, Mr Yeltsin's daughter - took advantage of the President's illness to carve himself out a position as the coun-try's most powerful official.

In October, General Lebed was fired. The general must now begin anew, building a political party and power base of his own.

As the new year begins, a precarious caim prevails. The prospect that Russia will return to some form of communism has receded sharply in 1996, and may now be dead. But many of the economic and social ailments that made Mr Yeltsin so unpopular a year ago still exist. Nor is 1997 likely to be an easy year.

The agenda makes grim reading: unpaid wages and pensions, a battle to collect taxes from a population that distrusts government, reform of the once-mighty military, attempts to scup-per the Chechen elections, resentment over Nato expansion, endemic corruption, organised crime, and more. Mr Yeltsin may have amazed the world with his capacity for survival, but he will need every ounce of strength if he is overcome the problems that lie in wait.

Moscow Correspondent



Middle East ruled by death and hypocrisy

It was a vicious, hypocritical year in the Middle East, a year which has scattered the seeds of the dreadful events which we shall inevitably witness in the year to come. Almost every decision taken by every leader in the region was wrong, though with the grim perspective of hindsight it is easy to see how one act of folly led to another. Yigal Amir, the murderer of Yitzhak Rabin, must be laughing in his prison cell; everything he prayed for is coming true.

Shimon Peres had postponed the elections in Israel but then, for reasons still unexplained, the Israelis murdered the Hamas bomber, Yamia Ayash, in Gaza. From this and from Israel's gloating over his death there inevitably followed the Palestinians' wicked revenge: bus bombings in Israel. And from those bombings

followed an "anti-terrorist" conference in Egypt in March at which President Bill Clinton. grieving over Israel's civilian dead and desperate to give Mr Peres his election victory, gave Israel the green light for any future "anti-terrorist" adventures. So when a bomb killed a Lebanese boy in Lebanon in April, the Hizbollah retaliated with Katyusha rockets into Israel and Mr Peres let his army off the leash - courtesy of the Clinton green light – to give the Middle East another bloodbath. the cruelly named "Operation Grapes of Wrath".

It was supposed to win Mr Peres the election; Mr Clinton would also later bomb Arabs, this time in Iraq, in another preelection demonstration of toughness, although with rather more success at the subsequent polls. But Israel's April bombardment of southern Lebanon targeted civilians rather than guerrillas were killed but every From Qana to Algeria, western blindness only ensured that things got worse, writes Robert Fisk



Revenge: Twenty-two people died when a Hamas suicide bomb blew up a bus in Jerusalem, in retaliation for the Israelis' assassination of Yamia Ayash Photograph: Reuters

day the Israeli air force and army struck at civilians, firing at apartment blocks, ambuclaiming to be hitting "terrorist targets". Israel slaughtered more than 170 men, women

and children, 101 of them in the UN's base at Qana. The Israelis claimed it was a mistake - the Hizbollah had been firing from Qana at an Israeli patrol laying booby trap bombs in the UN zone - but the UN concluded

the shelling was probably de-liberate and *The Independent* revealed a videotape which clearly showed an Israeli pilotless photo-reconnaissance aircraft over Qana while the

From President Clinton, who expressed such understandable sorrow at the deaths of Israelis two months earlier, came not a word of condemnation. But it didn't help Mr Peres, who lost the election, partly, per-haps, because his traditional Arab Israeli supporters were so disgusted by Qana. When Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud government took over, the Arab world quickly understood what this meant: Mr Netanyahu in effect tore up the Oslo accord while its US guarantors did no more than cluck disapprov-ingly from the sidelines. The deal that now looks set to be struck will not change that.

Jewish homeland in Palestine. Now the "land-for-peace" agreement, under which the US had staked its honour, and un-der which the Palestinians were encouraged to believe that they would acquire a state, proves to have been worth no more than the promises which Lawrence of Arabia gave to the

Promised independence if they helped the Allies in the 1914-

18 war, their world had been

secretly partitioned by the

superpowers, while the British

promised their support for a

Yet the Americans remained obsessed with the idea of Islamic "terrorism", with the For the Arabs, it was another encouragement of the Israelis.

princes of the Hejaz.

into the sea off New York, American journalists vied with each other to name the guilty Arabs while the Jerusalem Post blamed Iran, referring to the "slobbering" Muslims respon-sible for such a supposed crime.

Now that the Boeing company may have more to explain than the mullahs of Tehran by the year's end, a technical fault seemed the most likely explanation for the disaster - such claims have been quietly forgotten. But when the Americans were hit by a real act of Islamist" violence, in the Saudi city of Dhahran, they were,

Ossama bin Laden, one of many Gulf dissidents who may

corrupt regimes of the Gulf in order to impose their own ruthless version of "Islam", appeared in the fast-ness of Afghanistan to tell The Independent that the British and the French should also withdraw their soldiers from the land of Mecca and Medina.

ingle Cu jugger

But ironically, last year was the start of a new European relationship with the Middle East. Mainly because of America's collapsing credibility and prestige in the region, the Arabs saw Europe, and particularly France, the old mandate power in Syria and Lebanon, as an alternative to the world's only superpower.

When the French Prime Minister, Jacques Chirac, toured the Middle East, telling a lot of home truths which the Arabs and an ever larger number of Europeans had been waiting to hear, he was fêted as a saviour. He was nothing of the kind, but France's diplomatic initiative it included the involvement of Paris in the April ceasefire in Lebanon - marks a new role for Europe in a region in which it lost all credit during the 1956 Suez invasion.

Elsewhere in the Middle East, the bad got worse. Algeria's sadistic war became ever more gruesome as a military-backed regime went on fighting an ever rilla army whose throatcuttings have embarrassed even the most fundamentalist of Iranian clerics.

In Iraq, the children went on dying, at least until the oil began to flow again this month, while Saddam Hussein continued to rule as his son killed his son-in-law and then got shot himself.

Such family horrors helped to distract a US that is now being divided by Israel - between those of its citizens, led by prominent members of the Jewish community, who still support Mr Netanyahu and those who dare to question the United States' submissiveness to Israel's every whim.

Divisions of the past still cloud the rainbow nation Abolished in theory, apartheid is everywhere, writes Mary Braid

moment Aluwani Netsianda, 25-year-old press officer for the new, democratically elected, ANC-led council, was striding confidently up the path out-lining plans for the former "independent" homeland Venda; the next he was tongue-

tied, unsure, eyes cast down. standing ahead of us – a fat, blond white South African policeman. Despite all the con-scious raising on the long road to freedom, Mr Netsianda was reduced to "boy" again in the presence of "baas". "He used to beat me up during demons-trations," an embarrassed Mr Netsianda explained later.

It seems almost trite that race dominates a country like South Africa; but six months into my stint here, its all-pervasiveness still shocks.

Two years after the end of white minority rule Mr Netianda's humiliation is a subtle moment in the racial shakedown under way. Now and again there are more obscene lashes, like the middle-aged woman who cocked her thumb towards the run-down huts at the bottom of her garden, during my search for a house to rent, and said: "You can have him if you like. If you don't want him, we'll evict him." She was referring to the black garden-er who lived on the premises. She went on to offer some

dvice about handling lazy "bleks". That was in your face. More often the racism lurks, shark-like, beneath the surface, the real root of some other problem". Ask white South Africans why they have forsaken Johannesburg's city centre in their tens of thousands, moving offices nearer their luxurious, and increasingly fortified, homes in the predominantly white northern suburbs and they will answer: crime.

The city centre's crime rate is undeniably high. But scratch a little and discover the seldom mentioned bogeyman - Africa: squalid, poor and black, which the continent's white South Africans, eyes forever fixed on Europe, have for centuries tried to ignore. In the northern many whites remain strangely



Divided: Mandela and FW de Klerk represent the two sides of a nation Photograph: Reuters

suburbs the city could be Surrey. So it was once with the centre when rich white ladies in long white gloves met for tea served by black waiters, banished to townships after dark. But when legislation designed to keep blacks down -and out of white areas - began to crumble, the dark continent began to seep and then flood through. Whites, appalled at the loss of ownership, evacuated. Dennis Beckett, a South African journalist, calls the retreat to high walls and pan-ic buttons the "look-at-Africaand-run-like-hell" syndrome. It is a dangerous condition; it helps keep apartheid in place without the need for legislation.

Despite the aspirations of President Mandela's rainbow nation there are still two South Africas; one white, the other black. Wnites generally drive cars; blacks queue for minibuses. Road-repair gangs are black; foremen white. Against the background of

this social schizophrenia, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission has wrestled this year to heal a sick society. The statesanctioned violence that was required to keep racial madness in place has been laid bare in testimony to the commission, and in the recent court case involving the self-confessed state assassin Eugene de Kock. But blinkered, even blind.

During a three-week trip to Rwanda in November I en-countered the feared dark heart of Africa. In this lush, green country dominated by spectacular volcanic mountains the international press corps was on Hutu refugee watch. Two years before the hotel we shared in Gisenyi, on the border with Zaire, was the headquarters for Hntn militias as they carried out the geno-cide of 800,000 Tutsis. Few of us swam in the beautiful hotel of the past. One of the saddest pool. In 1994 it had been filled with the corpses of men, women and babies.

Across the border in rebelheld Goma, squalor nestled next to opulence. In President Mobutu's luxurious lakeside villa, giant, gallon-size bottles of pure French perfume decorated the his 'n' hers Jacuzzis. A quarter of a mile down the road Mr Mobutu must have travelled to reach his holida home was the crumbling block of flats which until the rebellion had housed his unpaid and corrupt armed forces. This was the African caricature. A continent of war, violence,

poverty and tin-pot dictators. When I returned to South Great Lakes crisis as if it was happening on another planet. "It's tribal, isn't it?" said one

could Mobutu live like that when his people were so poor?" She could connect violence and the cruel indifference of

the ruler to the ruled to "black on black" violence at home. But she was blind to any connection with the violence perpetrated by South Africa's own white tribe, despite months of harrowing testimony at the truth commission.

Among South Africa's blacks there is a strong feeling that no one will pay for the sins moments of the past six mouths occurred in October outside a Durban court when General Magnus Malan, for-mer Defence Minister, and one of apartheid's most hated figures, was cleared of murder after a seven-month trial failed to prove that he issued orders leading to the massacre of 13 people in a village south of Durban.

A grinning General Malan stood on the steps outside the court professing his innocence and Christianity. A few feet away Anna Ntuli, who lost three daughters and her husband in the KwaMakutha massacre, stood quietly watching. She was bewildered. "My chil-Africa, whites discussed the dren and my husband died and yet no one killed them," she said. Then she began to cry.

South Africa Correspondent

Biggest Brands! ggest Savings! ...WIDE RANGE OF 1997 DIARIES & PLANNERS IN STOCK ALL AT Guaranteed LOWEST PRICES... **BRITAIN'S OFFICE WORLD DELUXE OPERATORS** CHAIR (Code 303-770/773/227/830) Back rest adjustment Gas seat height adjus Grey and Red. BIGGEST Virgin DSHD 3.5" FORMATTED DISKS Double sided OFFICE REXEL POLYPROPYLENE A4 RING BINDER 45₽# 55%off Supplies AMSTRAD PPF600 PLAIN PAPER FAX MACHINE (Code 284-183) interface • 20 page document feed ▲ 12 one-Inuch and 62 abbreviated dial keys • lok film printing on plain PANASONIC UF-\$1 FAXTAM (Code 203-917) ● Combined fax, telephone and answer mach ● Document feeder 1.1 1.3 From 2.35p each Fine transmission mode £235.00# 25 number memory store
 Last number redial • 12 months warranty Open 8am-8pm Monday to Friday, 9am-6pm Saturday, 10.30am-4.30pm Sunday CHRISTMAN AND REW YEAR DESCRIPTIONS TO STANK STREET CHRISTMAS DAY CLOSED BOUING DAY 10.30AM-4.30PM NEW YEAR'S EVE BAM-6PM NEW YEAR'S DAY SAM-6PM (EDINBURGH AND GLASGOW CLOSED) NORMAL TRADING HOURS APPLY ON ALL OTHER DAYS FREEFAX 6800 24 5000 ANYTIME FREE BELIVERY: The No I Office Supplies Discount Superstore

There's always more ⁰/off at Office World

the Asian

To tele relative for stal

No stopping the single currency juggernaut

Europe has turned the corner and monetary union is inevitable, writes Andrew Marshall

t has been a strange year in Europe, one of manocuvring and shadowboxing, hedging and ditching. Yet out of this mess, a greater truth is emerging: Europe will have a single

The state of the s

to the letter

· inde for Bay

on Armsch te

· Appliate

"压锅"

and the state of t

Jr. 1 . 12 11 74

or light

an above

a lange

the state horos trades

જે છે. મે≉ છુ

1. A. . W.

11 maja j

· 10 45

1. 21.21

Section & Property

at No.

والط

o's off:

* ±2

ं भक्त

1.0

L SU

. Mary B

: : : : : : : : :

At the beginning of 1996, it would have looked to a casual observer as if monetary union might not happen at all The economics looked dodgy. the politics worse, and the prospects for success by 1999 seemed slight. By the end of the year, all that had turned around - to the extent that the actual notes were on display. For the first time, monetary union had become a concrete reality, a tangible fact: we could see the colour of the money. It is likely to prove a turning point.

The combination of slow growth in Europe and political opposition have both looked to be formidable obstacles to a single currency ever since the goal was agreed at Maastricht in 1991. The economic numbers from France and Germany (let alone the rest) looked as if they would make the project impossible. And in what could have been an important turning point, monetary union appeared as a divisive issue in the domestic politics of the state which matters more than all the others: Germany. The opposition Social Democrats campaigned against the euro in Baden Württemberg under the slogan: "Stability and jobs have priority now. Postpone EMU." But this call was soundly

rejected by the electorate. Bit by bit this year, the project has picked up momentum. At meetings in Verona, in Florence, and in Dublin, the EU started to put flesh on the bones. The new notes, unveiled in Dublin this month, ble evidence of progress; but ject thunders on down the realm of the practical. more important still was the so-road, making progress in a called "stability pact", an sometimes haphazard way

agreement that will regulate the workings of economic policy under monetary union. It is one of the basic building blocks

for a single currency.

Technically, it sets the rules for the acceptable limits of budget deficits for countries that participate in the euro. Politically, it ensures that Germany has a guarantee that the euro will be as stable and reliable as its own currency.

None of this means that the struggles are over, of course. The protests against budget cuts that have echoed across the main squares of Europe this year have shown that the divisive effect of cuts and austerity packages can generate anger and effective opposition. There will be more

Periodically, the effusion of opposition seems to crystallise

6 The debate has rarely made contact with the reality 🤊

into a real problem for monetary union. At least twice this year - in January and September - the flood of protests, expressions of doubt amongst the great and good of Europe and economic rumblings cast doubt on the enterprise.

It is partly a question of perception. Because of the sometimes tortuous way in which EMU advances, and because so much of the preparation is highly technical, the solidity of the single currency seems in doubt. Roadblocks and riots in Europe are more graphic, more obviously solid than meetings of finance ministers.

towards the goal of a single currency for Europe. As the Dublin summit showed, the fundamental political will in the rest of Europe is still there, and strikes by French and Greek lorry drivers or demonstrations in Rome will not divert it.

In Britain, the debate has moved this way and that over the course of 1996, rarely making contact with the reality of what is going on in Europe. Shadow boxing between and within the Labour and Conservative parties did little to clarify the basic issue: whether or not Britain will participate in a single currency. Both parties appeared to move further away from participation - yet neither would issue concrete statements with an election around the corner.

But there were vague stirrings this year in Britain, a sense of awakening from the prolonged sleep of the last five years. For the first time, there was an apparent recognition that something is actually happening. One index of this is the gap between what Malcolm Rifkind said in January and what he said in October. The Foreign Secretary, at the beginning of this year, was letting it be known that he thought the project to be on its last legs, and that he believed a postponement was just around the corner. By the time he made a landmark speech in Zurich in October, the angle was different. Instead, monetary union was presented as an imminent reality, albeit a risky and

dangerous one. That does not mean that the battles are over - indeed the biggest battle of all, over who takes part and who does not is still some way down the road. But over the next year, there will be more and more signs of monetary union, taking it further off



HALF PRICE SALE

SHAKER CREAM is plainly more attractive

with an **EXTRA 10% OFF** sale prices





Right now for the January Sale, all cabinets in 50 Kitchen and Bedroom ranges are reduced in price, most by 50%

ADDITIONAL Whirlpool OFFERS

FREE DISHWASHER | FREE HOS | FREE HOOD | 방 30% OFF ADG993 when you spend £3,250

ASK IN-STORE FOR DETAILS OF THESE AND MANY MORE OFFERS!

or more (excluding installation)

WORTH £599.99 (RRP)

A new range of appliances available exclusively from Magnet.

FOR YOUR NEAREST SHOWROOM Call 0800 555 825

Magnet Food for thought

China lurks behind the Asian tigers

Peking is the key to tensions throughout the

continent, writes Richard Lloyd Parry

last 12 months: 1995 was a spectacular year which saw terrorist attacks and earthquakes in Japan, nuclear tests in China and the South Pacific and, throughout the region, wrenching com-memorations of the 50th anniversary of the end of the Pacific war. The crises of 1996 were of a different order: few big splashes, but many

inconclusive ripples.
In March, the US 7th Fleet steamed into action after China began a series of war games in the run-up to the first ever democratic elections in Taiwan. But the polls went ahead, the winner Lee Teng Hui prudently chose not to declare independence from Peking, and the battleships steamed peacefully home again.

There were no big wars or natural disasters or dramatic falls from power in East Asia in 1996, and the year ended with displays of high-profile unity at economic summits in Manila and Singapore.

But to take this relative calm for stability, or to assume that the changes that have transformed European security have had an equivalent effect in Asia, would be premature.

Five years after the evaporation of the Soviet threat, Asian governments are in a state of uneasy readjustment. But classic communism is in decline in Asia, like everywhere else. In June the Communist Party of Vietnam held its party congress beneath giant images of Marx and Lenin - but behind the rhetoric the Central Committee's report read in parts like the work of Western management consultants. Even North Korea, the world's hold on to their power. Fellow last Stalinist bastion, welcomed feeling among South-east

sia has seemed Westerners in September to its almost quiet over first Free Trade Zone.

But ideological differences are still alive in Asia, as this year demonstrated. For years, students of economics and international affairs have debated the existence of "Asian values" - hard work, strong, supportive families and a willingness to sacrifice the interests of the individual for the

good of the group.
Authoritarian states such as Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia have long attracted the concern of Western human rights organisations; the focus for this was Burma, and its democracy leader Aung San

6 To take this relative calm for stability would be premature 🤊

dignity in the face of continued Law and Order Restoration Council (Slore). In July, governments in Europe and America reacted with anger a probationary member of the Association of South East

On the face of it, the Asean decision was understandable by embracing rather than judg-ing the Slore, Burma's Asean brethren will have their best

Sun Kyi, who maintained her harassment by the ruling State when Burma was welcomed as Asian Nations [Asean].

chance of setting the nation towards wealth and democracy. But the appeal to Asian values is looking more and more like an excuse for despots to

Indonesians arrested in the aftermath of the July riots for their peaceful opposition to the government - nor for the in-habitants of East Timor, the former Portuguese territory annexed 20 years ago.

Asians did little for the

The correspondences be tween Burma and Indonesia were emphasised in October with the award of the Nobel Peace Prize, previously won by Ms Suu Kyi, to Bishop Carlos Belo and Jose Ramos-Horta of East Timor.

But at the deepest level, the

Burma dispute, like almost all the other tensions in the region, is about China. Peking already has the world's biggest army; in the first quarter of the next century it will have de-veloped the world's biggest economy. Scratch away at most of the incidents, spats and stand-offs which have flickered throughout Asia in 1996 and you will find China. To the Asean countries,

China is a source of fear and opportunity. By maintaining an ambivalent distance from the values of the West, they leave open the option of eventual détente with Peking, while constructing a reassuring cordon sanitaire out of new members such as Laos, Cambodia - and Burma. Increasingly, future Chinese assertiveness was foreshadowed in the form of territorial disputes - from the seemingly trivial squabble over the lonely Senkaku/Diaoyutai chain, claimed by Japan, to sabre-rattling over Taiwan.

In a sense, these disputes will remain unsolved until after the handover of Hong Kong at the end of June. Only then will China's neighbours have a sense of what to expect - or fear.

Tokyo Correspondent

terms, it's been a confusing year. Whether because of lotteryfunded refurbishments, brewery-enforced overhauls or callous evictions, most of London's key purveyors of new writing have had to play "musical venues". So, in order to catch the latest new offering from the Bush, you've had to remember not to catch the tube to Shepherd's Bush but to head, instead, for the Lyric Studio or Electric Cinema. Going to the Royal Court now involves a trip into the West End and struggling to recall whether the Theatre Downstairs is the old Duke of York's or whether it's the old Ambassador's (aka the Theatre Upstairs - where Stephen Daldry and designer William Dudley have, to confuse matters still further, carved out two new spaces the Stage and the Circle from the old auditorium). "Which side is up?" is a question that is now, more

than usual, up in the air. It's heartening to report though, that when you finally tracked down these places in 1996, you tended to be given the goods. If one of the primary duties of theatre is to confront a society with itself - to make it catch its reflection from a new, revealing and inescapably warranted angle - then the Court and the Bush have both been ful-filling that function with great flair. The burgeoning talents of the post-Thatcher 20something generation, who write about the moral drift and tribal youth culture of contemporary urban life, have been handled with sensitivity and creative solicitude.

My one quarrel with Mark Ravenhill's Shopping and Fucking (which opened - to a flurry of censorious asterisks - in October and returns to the Royal Court on 8 Jan) is that it tried too hard to be the summary statement of our times. What can't be questioned is Ravenbill's skill at turning sharp empirical ob-servation into a kind of diagnostic symbolism or the economy with which he conjures up a dysfunctional, disconnected, disposable world where the only relationships that can be trusted are those

THEATRE

Season of short, sharp shocks

The spaces have kept on the move, but then so have the best of the new writers. By Paul Taylor



transactions. It's an extreme vision and there are one or

two scenes in the play which

had this critic on the point of

fainting away. But it never

feels gratuitous: rather, the

look hard at moral horror and not lose his balance, sanity, wit or compassion.

Independence Day's staggering first three days, in which it

With £36.7m taken by mid-

November, and with the film

still on release, it was a fore-gone conclusion that the pic-

ture would be the year's biggest hit. In its wake came Toy Sto-

ny (£22.1m), Seven (£19.5m) and

That opening was also an example of how - albeit initially for pragmatic reasons -

break the hamster wheel of conventional West End theatre-going. The sound in-sulation at the Ambassador's does not allow both spaces to be used simultaneously, en-

9.30pm) for one of the evening's two shows. Can we think, in theatre terms, of a post-watershed slot? Certainly, if you take the example of Jim Cartwright's I Licked a Slag's Deodorant, the 9.30 start-time allows for a piece that is shorter (under an hour), more off-the-wall and more lyrically intense than you would normally expect in this neighbourhood and one that can appeal to and one that can appeal to young adults who may have had a few drinks, rather than the one ritual gin and tonic, beforehand. It's good that Daldry, who could have charmed money for a Cavalier theatre season out of Cromwell himself, is using the financial backing of the Jerwood Foundation to such unstable ends.

As for The Beauty Queen of Leenane, written by the prolific, unstoppable newcomer, Martin McDonagh, who seems to have marched straight to the top of the class; I couldn't decide whether it was the real thing or an extremely clever fake. It will be easier to tell if he has more than a quite awesome competence when his new play The Cripple of Inishmaan opens at the National next month. Let's hope he does. In the West End proper,

where McDonagh is surely bound, the play that has set cash registers ringing is Yas-mina Reza's Art. The teamwork of Tom Courtenay, Albert Finney and Ken Stott is a delight to behold, but the piece itself is like something a computer might have come up with if asked to devise a worldwide boulevard hit. Nobody ever lost money on a play that can flatter either an audience's philistinism or its desire to feel in-the-know about fashionable cultural issues. An also has the advantage of being a "Three Tenors Concert" without the music. It's a cut above Old Wicked Songs or Tolstoy (or anything else from the tiny amount of new work that has come into the West End from the largely non-subsidised sector). But that doesn't mean we have to fool ourselves about Art's quality. It's essentially a product, cleverly but shallowly written, for people who, when they

Oh what a circus, oh what a show

MUSICAL THEATRE

Jesus Christ Superstar' has improved with age, and only a saintly 'Thoedora' could better it. By Edward Seckerson

the female performance of the

year from Janet McTeer. I

cannot even begin to imagine

the energy, physical and men-tal, required to keep Torvald's

"httle woman" (and McIeer is anything but) in her place. The frightening thing about her dizzying Nora is the extent to

which she has been swallowed

up by the role expected of her.

It's hard, not to say exhausting,

to watch her flap, fret, and sim-per her way to that final scene.

Speaking of final scenes, the rather significant one at the

close of *Jesus Christ Superstar*

is more moving and more

truthful than one would ever

aints, swans, a Seventies discretions of Messieurs Rice and Lloyd Webber. In the case superstar. And the un-mistakable sound of Ibsen's Nora shutting that door of the latter, no apologies are necessary. This sweet, soulful, fractured, quirky, gutsy score is of its time, for sure. It's just that behind her. Broadway once tried its hand at a musical verits time is, so far, 25 years on sion of A Doll's House. All doors slammed fairly sharpish on that one. There are no songs in Anthony Page's reve-latory production at the Playand counting. Someone should get Gale Edwards into an opera house. And fast. It won't be the Royhouse Theatre. Just a very free Opera House, of course. adaptation of a very great play from Frank McGuinness, and

Come July, there won't be one. Can anyone tell us what's going on? I know of one major international conductor who's been booked for *The Barber of* Seville but doesn't know where. Perhaps he never will. But back to 1996. Actually, Jesus Christ Superstar might well have been my opera (or "music theatre") production of the year, had it not been for the saintly Theodora at Glyndebourne. She was quite something. Partly on account of one George Frideric Handel, whose score - one achingly beautiful number after another - is among his unsung finest (the conductor William Christie subsequently got into all kinds of trouble for gilding the period lily with all manner of delicious instru-mental embellishments), but

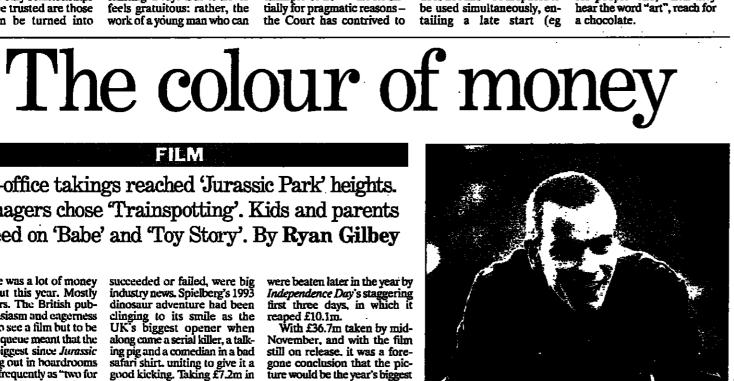
have thought possible of a show long since consigned to the scrapbook of post-hippy hip. But that's because the also thanks to three vintage performances from Dawn Up-shaw, Lorraine Hunt (a Handel Australian director Gale Edwards takes it as she finds it. stylist rivalled only by our own Ann Murray), and the astonand finds it as she takes it. And she takes it a whole lot further than Jim Sharman's original production did. It's a dynam-ic second coming played out in truly operatic fashion under the ishing American counter-tenor David Daniels. The production, from that ageing young turk, Pe-ter Sellars, was predictably desearching cross-beams of spised in some quarters. Small misgivings apart, I thought it beautiful and dignified. For David Hersey's stunning lighting. John Napier has excavat-ed an eye-catching Roman those who still decry opera in arena from the ruins of Hen- English because "it sounds sil-

Dynamic second coming for 'Jesus Christ Superstar', 25 years after the original adopted hand gesture as an ex-tension of feeling and sense. And it made perfect sense in Theodora: a universal language

for a universal faith. In case you hadn't heard, it's official: London's West End currently houses the longestrunning dance production of all time. And it's a success born of Matthew Bourne's Adventures in Motion Pictures company. Swan Lake is capturing everyone's imagination: balletomanes, balletophobics, traditionalists and revisionists alike. Word of mouth is filling the Piccadilly Theatre. Punters are going back for a second and third time.

Why? Because, despite being dubbed "the gay Swan Lake". Bourne's funny and heartfelt re-imagining of this enduring classic touches everyone. It's about loneliness, isolation, desire, the dream of perfect love and the nightmare of imperfect reality. "Do not feed the swans" reads the sign. But the little old lady with her bag of crumbs does not heed it. And the unloved prince, newly awakened, freed, transported, de-luded by the swan of his dreams, hugs and kisses her. Talk about irrigating the tear ducts in readiness for Act 2.

But, I can hear you asking, "Never mind all this snivelling, what about the issues, the trends?" The only trend I care about is the one about there not being a trend. But, if I must, the BBC's Henry Wood Proms have been "trendy" for 101 years and have only now won the trust to be - and to go on being - the most adventurous classical music festival ry Irving's newly refurbished ly and you don't hear the words anywhere in the world. They Lyceum Theatre, and a high-octane cast make no apologies whatsoever for the youthful in-practice, Sellars has lately anywhere in the world. They broke all box-office records this year. Now there's a trend to encourage.



Box-office takings reached 'Jurassic Park' heights. Teenagers chose 'Trainspotting'. Kids and parents agreed on 'Babe' and 'Toy Story'. By Ryan Gilbey

about this year. Mostly yours. The British public's enthusiasm and eagerness not only to see a film but to be first in the queue meant that the phrase "biggest since Jurassic Park" rang out in boardrooms almost as frequently as "two for Independence Day, please" was the year's first weekend, Seven, heard in cinema foyers.

Alun Armstrong is outstanding.

stunningly effective"

"Miller's masterpiece"

He doesn't demand attention, he compels it"

*David Thacker's evocative production...

Lyttelton Theatre: Tonight, Tomorrow, Mon 30 Dec, Wed 1 Jan at 7.30pm, Sat 28 & Tues 31 Dec at 2.15pm & 7.30pm & continuing in repertoire.

succeeded or failed, were big were beaten later in the year by industry news. Spielberg's 1993 Independence Day's staggering

dinosaur adventure had been clinging to its smile as the reaped £10.1m. UK's biggest opener when along came a serial killer, a talk-Bube and Ace Ventura: When Opening weekends, those crucial three-day periods when a film is deemed to have either opening to defeat the prehistoric record-holder, but they, too,

Mission: Impossible (£18.3m), with Twister (£14.8m), which had the best advance trailer of the year but little else, bringing up the rear. So that was where your mon-Death of a ey went. But what was going on inside your mind? The year's box-office Top 10 tells the same story as ever - big films and kids' films (or, in the case of Mission: Impossible, big kids' films), although the success early on in the year of Seven, Heat and Trainspotting among late-teens and twentysomethings indicates that the target audience of so much product being spat out of Hollywood does, in fact, take its entertainment a little darker. In fact, so many young people were going to the cine-ma this year that it was deemed

> magazine. Neon, to cater sole-Some complained that Neon gave the cold shoulder to foreign pictures, but you could argue that this was simply a reflection of there being so little to celebrate this year that wasn't in the English language. There were a few exceptions: Wong Kar Wai's Fallen Angels; Pedro Almodovar's The Flower of My Secret: Pierre Salvadori's Les Apprentis; Lars Von Trier's The Kingdom (which ruffled fewer feathers, but was a more astounding work than Von Trier's follow-up, Breaking the Waves). But the numbing lack of imagination in such indulgent exercises as Ulysses Gaze and Le Bonheur was overshadowed by the tragic sight of one of France's finest actors. Daniel Auteuil appearing in two of the year's worst films,

judicious to launch a new film



everyone who wanted to be a junkie but hated needles

for it: Mike Leigh discovered that humanity wasn't such a bad thing after all, and made his best film. Secrets and Lies. which won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival; Oliver Stone exhibited a sudden clarity of vision in Nixon; Steal-ing Beauty was Bertolucci's most coherent and bewitching work since Last Tango in Paris; and Mike Figgis finally found the movie - Leaving Las Vegas - to suit his reputation, and his talent. But there's always one - and Woody Allen's Mighty Aphrodite proved that trashy comedies like Kingpin and Happy Gilmore didn't have the monopoly on regressive infantile

portraits of women. It was an American who came up with the year's most startling film: Todd Haynes's Safe was a ceaselessly unsettling study of a suburban housewife gripped in the teeth of an environmental illness. Along with the year's other best work - Seven and Toy Story it did things to you that you'd forgotten cinema was capable of doing. It took your breath

If there was something that hung heavy over the year, it the Champs-Elysées.

Several directors changed was, as always, controversy, their stripes, and looked better From the desperate efforts to whip up something in the neighbourhood of curiosity about Showgirls and Striptease to the very real outcry over Kids, it was a year of outrage. Over the violence in Casino, the politics of Michael Collins, and as for Crash ... well, anyone who's seen it will gladly testify to being completely befuddled as to what exactly the world and its maiden aunt were objecting to there (you'll be able to judge for yourself if the film earns a certificate in time for its late-January release). The big success story, with all

its attendant controversy, remains Trainspotting. A small film about a big problem - drug addiction - it captured the imagination of everyone who wanted to be a junkie but hated needles, as well as those whose bedroom walls had been crying out for a new poster since the Beny Blue one fell down. Objecting to the picture as a celebration of councilestate chic was futile. It was unstoppable, thanks to a worlddominating poster campaign that bugged the hell out of you at home but made your heart jump when you ran into it on



Old but

DANCE

bold

Veterans such as Mikhail Baryshnikov (right) and revived classics were the class of '96. By Louise Levene

The Royal Ballet's first new work for 1996 was Matthew Hart's Dances with Death, in which the HTV virus (Darcey Bussell in lipstick red) attacked the white cor-puscles. The company also mined its repertoire with mixed results: a revival of Kenneth MacMillan's house-party rape drama The Invitation, coached by Lynn Seymour, was very welcome; the exhumation of his interminable three-act version of Anastasia, however, was less successful, despite giving both Viviana Durante and Sarah Wildor a chance to get their teeth into another of Seymour's

most famous roles. David Bintley was already doing good work as the new artistic cirrector of Birmingham Royal Ballet. Bintley created his hyper-extended barn-dance Far from the Madding Crowd with one eye firmly on the boxoffice but the company staged a number of strong revivals in-cluding Jerome Robbins's 1951 tale of misandry and castration, The Cage. Birmingham also premiered Bintley's Nutcracker Sweeties, danced to Duke Ellington's Tchaikovsky homage and dressed to kill by Jasper Conran in tutus encrusted with Smarties and cof-

Revamped classics were popular. Matthew Bourne's Adventures in Motion Pictures toured the country with Swan Lake before settling in for a record-breaking run at Lon-don's Piccadilly Theatre, where they were joined by Lynn Sey-mour, making a comeback as Siegfried's dysfunctional nymphomaniac mother.

It was a good year for vet-erans. Mikhail Baryshnikov packed the London Coliseum for a week in August with worshippers willing to watch any amount of hurudrum padding so long as Misha was dancing in between.

Other dance phenomena also played to packed houses but with less critical success. Michael Flatley, the former Riverdancer, toured the land with his modestly entitled Lord of the Dance, a farrago of Celtic codswallop that showcased his incessant jigging. The paying public's unhealthy appetite for engorged egos in tight trousers was again demonstrated when the obscenely hyped Joaquin Cortés performed a travesty of flamenco in a candle-lit Albert Hall. Only his foxy old uncle Christobal Reyes gave any indication of the true percussive

More welcome visitors were Prudential Award.

Antonio Gades, who brought the stage version of Carmen; Tango por Dos, with some more sinuous-limbed cabaret from Buenos Aires; and the Kirov Ballet with *The Nutcracker*. The Edinburgh Festival's commitment to dance was proved yet again with the annual visit by Mark Morris, Pina Bausch's magnetic Iphigenie auf Tauris and a long-overdue visit from the Martha Graham Dance Company, which brought an il-luminating selection of influ-ential Graham works from the Thirties and Forties.

Other imports were decidedly substandard: Les Grands Ballets Canadiens bored Sadler's Wells with its poor technique and feeble chore-black but has also dragged its

fine reputation into the mire. Contemporary choreography was far better served by the home grown Siobhan Davies, the Jean Muir of British dance, whose interrelated works Trespass and Affections were the highlight of the 1996 Dance Umbrella Festival of modern work and a fitting celebration of her newly-acquired £50,000

| Royal | National | Box Office 0171-928 2252 | Theatre | First Call 0171-420 0000 The Eighth Day and Une Femme Française.

And just really, 1

The Spare Live Support Tak by Emma For

Last of the great showstoppers?

It was a good year for Degas, but a bad show all round when the V&A started charging admission. By Andrew Graham-Dixon

VISUAL ARTS

his past year will large-ly be remembered for a number of remarkespecially, perhaps, Richard Kendall's brilliant "Late Degas" at the National Gallery, and (at the same institution) Christopher Brown's exhibitarating show "Rubens's Landscapes". The Sainsbury Wing's basement galleries can sometimes seem depressingly sepulchral, but on these two occasions they seemed intimate instead - appropriate for works like Degas's late pastels or Rubens's landscapes, which are fascinating partly because they are works evidently charged with so much personal meaning for the artists who created them. The exhibitions were, of course, totally different from one another, but nevertheless the sense of having stumbled into some private chamber of a great artist's imagination was overpoweringly strong in each case.
This type of relatively small but highly focused exhibition has

The second of th

prospered in recent years, especially at the National Gallery - although the credit for establishing it in this country as a credible alternative to the blockbuster should perhaps go to the Tate Gallery's director, Nicholas Serota, who put on a number of smaller shows (eg "Max Beck-mann's Triptychs", "Late Leger" and others) during his time at the Whitechapel Gallery in the 1980s.

Leaving aside the Tate's own enormous and inevitably popular Cézanne exhibition, it has not been a great year for the huge crowd-pulling exhibition. "Picasso and Portraiture", at the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Grand Palais in Paris, was symptomatic - this was a somewhat disappointing and opportunistic event, a nakedly biographical exhibition that turned out to be considerably less revealing than the second volume in John Richardson's ongoing biography of the artist, which

clearly the inspiration for it. The late 20th century's fascination with Picasso seems to be short-circuiting on a circular argument: his art is fascinating because it reveals him to have been a fascinating man; because he was a fascinating man, his art is fascinating. There is something fatally wrong with both



Degas: Dancer looking at the Sole of Her Right Foot Ursula and R Stanley Johnson Collection

wake of such recent large and wellattended exhibitions as "Late Picasso", "Picasso and Things", "Picasso: Painter/Sculptor" and "Picasso and the Mediterrhaps time for curators to stop treating his work, like that of the Impressionists, as an inexhaustible natural resource - and an easy way for them to meet their attendance quotas.

Perhaps the most ill-omened event of the year occurred on 1 October, when the Victoria & Albert Museum finally gave up politely inviting visitors to make

these propositions. Besides, in the a contribution and instead introduced a compulsory £5 admission charge. Dr Alan Borg, the director of the museum, was cast in certain quarters as the villain of the piece, but in reality he had government grant of £30m, to meet annual costs of £38m, has been cut by £1m this year, with a further cut of £1m earmarked for 1997-8. There is little prospect, it is said, of a Labour government raising the grant.
A few weeks after the V&A

had introduced charges, the fu-ture of free museums in Britain

was further called into question by the publication of a report commissioned by the Trustees of the British Museum. Its author, a retired deputy secretary of the Treasury, Andrew Edwards, recommended that the British Museum also bring in compulsory charges to help combat its crip-pling deficit. His other recommendations were that the museum should market itself more aggressively (ie make its displays less scholarly and more "popular") and that it should shed staff.

The museums in question will

probably survive the introduction of charges more or less intact. There are grounds, too, to believe Dr Borg when he says that charg-ing does not deprive the poor of the experience of museums: those who have done research in this area tell us that hardly any poor people go to museums, free or not, anyway. But that is no reason not to fight those who would seek to erode the principle of free admission. The founding fathers of the British Museum, full of grand Augustan self-confidence, declared that its primary function was to serve as a collection of national treasures "for the use and benefit of the public, who may have free access to view and peruse the same"; likewise, the emment Victorians who founded the V&A were adamant that it should be a free national resource. The gap that separates us from them is, it seems, a large one. There is a long and com-mendable tradition in Britain of ensuring free public access to literature, art, and other materials of self-education and self-enlightenment - the public library system and the BBC are equally embattled manifestations of the philanthropic social principles that underlie that tradition. But our thin-lipped, mean-spirited politicians and civil servants would seem to regard philanthropy as a dirty word and social principles as tokens to be traded votes. The introduct charges at the V&A might not seem momentous to everyone. Britain's transition from a relatively generous and large-spirited society to a mean and small-minded one. The notion that all institutions should be run

as if they were businesses is the



Twenty-three is the magic number: Stephen Bochco's 'Murder One

Our Friends in the States

The old adage that US import equals trashy viewing was finally laid to rest, just as pseudo-science took over the schedules. By Thomas Sutcliffe

't was a year that confounded some received opinions about British television. Who could really argue, for example, that American imports are little more than cheap filler for British schedules in a year that delivered Murder Onc. Stephen Bochco's imperial display of industry clout? Murder One wasn't perfect, and it disgraced itself with its final episode, but the gloss and style of the 22 that went before had an undeniable, extravagant force and converted this critic into a slavish viewer (not to mention the fact that it also possessed the Signature Tune of the Year). In comedy, too, the Americans proved that their production-line technique, lavishly fund-ed and prodigiously well staffed, could frequently defeat the two-man craft-shops of British sitcom. The Americans would be unlikely ever to produce something as wayward as Father Ted, easily the best British comedy of the year, but they are unlikely to worry too much given that they can turn out programmes like with such consistency (the latter, incidentally, is not just comedy of the year but front-runner for Comedy of the Decade — savage, hilarious proof that irony is an indigenous American form). I confess, too, that gory, with its bubble-gum hommage It was also a year in which a new

TELEVISION

treat it as a radio programme, so that it is possible to enjoy the script without having to endure the gesticu-lating self-congratulation of the east. In homegrown drama, the headline event was Our Friends in the North, although I never quite managed to match my genuine admiration for its ambition with any real warmth of feeling for the thing itself. In the more routine stretches of the schedules - the day-in, day-out feeding of that endless appetite for narrative - several things stood out: This Life was a witty, convincing account of an ecology rarely captured on tele-vision, the life of young single peo-ple in and out of their first jobs: *The* Sculptress restored a gothic shudder to the English detective serial; and The Crow Road showed that com-

ruts of the established genres. Documentaries were in good shape too. The House proved that had plenty of buzz left in it and Mod-ern Times continued to stretch the established documentary techniques (a case in point would be Lucy Blakstad's documentary about flat-sharing, which used multiple I finally capitulated to Friends (run-cameras to film flat-mate interviews ner-up in the Signature Tune cate- as the emotional dramas they are).

pelling drama need not follow the

lowing on the success of The Real Holiday Show, Moving Houses exploited the ability of hand-held video to get inside people's houses and their lives, a quality that also distinguished the best of the year's Video Diaries - a film about the

rigours of adopting a foreign child. Easily the most pernicious de-velopment of 1996 was the viral spread of paranormal programmes, a plague that announced its arrival on BBC with the televisual bubo of Out of This World, hosted by Carol Vorderman and several hundred kilos of dry ice. Out of This World compounded the sin of wilful credulity with that of hypocrisy, presenting itself as sceptical inquiry but undermining common sense at every turn, with tricks of lighting and verbal innuendo. Truly a bias against

There are antidotes to these triumphs of ignorance in the form of Horizon and Equinox, the second of which carned a Distinguished Conduct Medal for its documentary terrestrial sightings. Unfortunately the people who need the antidotes most are most unlikely to take them. Turkey of the Year (should you still feel peckish) was unquestionably Wanted, in which Channel 4 spent thousands of pounds on establishing beyond contradiction that watching people waiting in telephone boxes isn't very interesting.

And just what did we really, really want?

The Spice Girls slipped in where Take That left off. And Techno terrorists went chartside. By Emma Forrest

took over the pop charts. The Prodigy had two No 1 hits with "Firestarter" and "Breathe". Underworld's "Born Slippy" (taken from the Trainspouting soundtrack) dominated summer radio. The Chemical Brothers and Noel Gallagher had a No 1 with "Setting Sun" (an appropriation of The Beatles' Tomorrow Never Knows", affectionately known as "Tomorrow Never Noels"). Tori Amos went the other way: her single "Profession-al Widow" didn't make much of an impact on the charts, but the re-mix by Armand Van Helden was the club-land hit of 1996.

After a disastrous performance at the Reading Festival, the Stone Roses finally called it a day (irrepressible bassist Mani defected to Primal Scream, while guitarist John Squire has written with Liam Gallagher). Their Manchester peers, the Charlatans, suffered the loss of their keyboardist Rob Collins in a car crash. But they returned with "One To Another", a kind of Nineties "I Will Survive" and the unchallenged single of the year. Similarly, Manic Street

t was the year that Preachers overcame the loss Britam's techno terrorists of guitarist Richey Edwards of guitarist Richey Edwards to produce Everything Must Go, their most accessible and successful album yet. Fellow Welsh boys Super Furry Animals made Fuzzy Logic as innovative an album as Beck's Odelay but more fun to listen to.

The Spice Girls sold Girl Power to the nation's young females and then urged them to vote Tory. The post breakup careers of the boys from Take That proved that context is everything. Away from his pals, band clown Robbie Williams became a drunken fool. Gary Barlow's solo effort was so tedious it made Céline Dion look like Frank Zappa. And little Mark Owens appears to be going for the Michael Jackson "I'm so creepy" market. Jackson's star fell as that of his evil nemesis Jarvis Cocker shot to the stratosphere. And Madonna, taking on the role of Evita,

metamorphosed from pop tart to torch singer. Blur spoke of their joy at being the underdogs again and of the spiritual enlightenment they have found while recording their new album in Iceland. Kula Shaker offered us their own danceable slices of mys-



The Spice Girls: the most convincing argument yet for joining the Young Conservatives?

tic mumbo-jumbo. A spate of Oasis biographies were published that almost all managed to make a dreary story out of the most exciting band in Britain. The exception was Paul Mathur's witty Take Me There, which was affectionate without being sycophantic.

On the rap front, The Fugees made it huge with their lifestyle album The Score, while LL Cool J bounced back with the brilliant re-mix of "Loungin". Tupac was killed and Chuck D compiled a list of reasons trying to prove that the long-lashed gangsta had

faked his own death.

Richard Fearless was the best DJ in London, taking up residency at The Heavenly Social (the club that launched The Chemicals).

The gig of the year was Bruce Springsteen, stripping it down at the Brixton Academy (where he sang a stunning Born in the USA" without

ever saying those words). Hotly tipped for 1997 are Hurricane - Alan McGee's latest signing to Creation -and Kylie's collaboration with James Manic. Meanwhile, Björk is still unlistenable and Frank Sinatra is still



Tel: 0171 293 2222

University of Ulster

Faculty of Informatics/Faculty of Engineering

The Interactive Systems Centre (ISC) at Magee College is a multi disciplinary research, development and consults facility working in the field of multimedia interactive facility working in the field or mutumenta interactive systems and microprocessor embedded applications in Information Technology. The ISC, which is supported by the International Fund for Ireland, has recently begun work on three major EU funded projects: TALENT (Training and Learning Environment with Networked Tutoring), PrOMInent (The Promotion of OMI by a User Support Network Centre) and STEPCAM (A System Level Development Toolchain for Embedded Performance Critical Applications in a Universal Microportunelly. Posts within TALENT/prOMinent are tenable until 30 September 1997, STEPCAM until 30 November 1998 in the first instance with the possibility of extension subject to

Faculty of Informatics

Research Fellow: Project Manager - TALENT Ref: C96/286/IND

To be responsible for the day-to-day research activities of the TALENT Project and the monitoring of progress according to the plan of work. Applicants must have a first or upper second class honours degree in computing and a minimum of 5 years' experience in the management of computer projects in both academic and industrial environments together with experience of interface between software design specifications and development, computing concut, presentation and ass computing and retraining and the ability to demons extensive experience of internet and related technologies for Starting Salary will be in the range £19,848 - £25,035

Research Fellow:

Multimedia Development Tools -TALENT Ref: C96/287/IND To maintain and manage the research and development activities of the TALENT Project. Applicants must have a first or upper second class honours degree in computing and nt least 5 years' software development experience in a university or industrial environment together with strong software development skills including multimedia programming and software tools development. arting Salary will be in the range £19,848 - £21,519

Research Officer: WWW **Development Tools - TALENT** Ref: C96/288/IND

To work on the design and development of software for the TALENT Project. Applicants must have a first or second class homours degree or equivalent in computing, engineering or related discipline and at least 2 years' experience in the development of application softwar Starting Salary will be in the range £14,317 - £19,848

Research Officer: Multimedia Development

Tools - TALENT Ref: C96/289/IND Applicants must have a first or second class honours degree or equivalent in computing, engineering or related discipline and have at least 2 years' experience in the development of application software including at least 2 years experience in systems and network administration. Strong software skills are essential as is experience of network de configuration and management involving Mac, PC and Unix

Starting Salary will be in the range £14,317 - £19,848 Research Assistant:

Network Management prOMInent Ref: J96/290/IND

Responsible for the design, specification and mai the support centre's WWW pages and database requirements. Applicants must have a first or second class honours degree or higher degree in computing, electronic engineering or a closely related discipline and must have experience of developing and maintaining WWW pages.

Preference will be given to candidates who can demonstr strong software design skills, knowledge of computer

Starting Salary will be in the range £14,317 - £15,154

Faculty of Engineering Research Officer: Microprocessor Development Tools - prOMinent

Ref: J96/280/IND

Responsible for engaging in research and development of mimoprocessor systems with particular emphasis on the requirements of local industry and a support centre network pplicants must have a first or second class honours degree higher degree in electronic engineering, comparing or related discipline, experience of microprocessor systems and appropriate software design tools. Preference will be i to applicants who have 2 years' postgraduate rience in either a university or industrial R&D

Starting Salary will be in the range £14,317 - £17,466

Research Officer: Microcontroller Toolset Design & Development -STEPCAM Ref: J96/298/IND

Responsible for contributing to the specification, dealgn and opment of a microcontroller toolset and the select and implementation of problems that will indequately exercise and evaluate the toolset. Applicants must have a first or second class honours degree or higher degree in estrate experience of

Starting Salary will be in the range £14,317 - £17,466

Research Officer: Microcontroller Toolset Design & Training -STEPCAM Ref: J96/299/IND

Applicants must have a first or second class honours degree or higher degree in electronic engineering or related discipline and demonstrate experience of microprocessor/microcontroller technology or embedded systems including hardware design and appropriate software design and appropriate software design and development of technical Starting Salary will be in the range £14,317 - £17,466

Research Officer: Microcontroller Toolset Integration - STEPCAM Ref: J96/300/IND

To be responsible for the specification of inter toolset communication standards and protocols, the application programming interfaces, the implementation of the negration of the tools, and the design of an open RTOS interface. Applicants must have a first or second class honours degree or higher degree in computing, electroni engineering or related discipline and must demonstrate knowledge of Windows NT operating systems, distributed esterns and user interface design. Starting Salary will be in the range £14,317 - £17,466

Salaries will be subject to funding and will be within the appropriate range for research staff Research Assistant: £14,317 - £15,986 Research Officer: £14317 - £21,519 £19,848 - £26,430 Research Fellow:

Closing Date:

21, 22 & 23 January 1997 Further details and application forms may be obtained from the Recruitment Office, University of Ulster at Coleraine, Cromore Road, Coleraine, Co Londonderry BT52 ISA.

Telephone: (01265) 324946 or internal extension 4957 (for posts with reference prefix C) and the University of Ulster at Londonderry Newtonian theory. Telephone: (01232) 368222 or internal extension 8222 (for posts with reference prefix J).

An equal

10 Jaquary 1997

An equal opportunity employer, the University encor applications from both men and women, those with applications from both men and women, and disabilities and those from all sections of the count All applications will be considered on merit. The Juiversity has a policy whereby smoking is restricted to

Lambeth College is a growing College with results improving year on year. With new buildings, new programmes and new ways to meet inner-city needs, our mission is to make a difference to our South London community - a difference in skills, opportunities and enterprise. We are looking for enthusiastic, committed people to join our staff and help us achieve that goal.

Are you interested in teaching part-time? Do you have working or teaching experience in the following subjects? If so, we are seeking people to join our register of part-time teachers.

> Health Care, Childcare and Education Basic Skills Support (Literacy/Numeracy/ESOL) Special Needs (LDD) with vocational expertise Construction including Timber Crafts, Decorative Studies, Electrical Installation, Plumbing, Building Services and Housing

Business Studies, Information Technology, Secretarial Skills Teeline, Multi-Media, Computer Graphics, Journalism, Desk-top Publishing

Dyslexia Support

For further information and an application form call our Recruitment Hotline on 0171-501 5555 (24 hour ansaphone) quoting reference

'A' Level Mathematics

LAMBETH

COLLEGI

Meeting Needs laking a Difference

ambeth College is committed to increasing the skilis of people in its Borough and beyond by

providing high quality post-16 education training guidance which is cost effective, and ensures equality of opportunity

MECHANICAL Lots of opportunities: automotive electro-mech e utilities

From graduate level upwards. Call Sue on 01442 878277

(AGY)

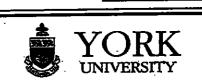
Are You A Recent BEnd MEng PhD? ASIC, RF. Electronics? Peter Murphy



COURSES

scores on

HERTFORD COLLEGE. OXFORD A LEVEL GCSE 01865 242670 a 01865 246119



TENURE TRACK JOINT APPOINTMENT, 1997 - 98 SCIENCE EDUCATION

YORK UNIVERSITY: Applications are invited for a newly-created position - Science Education jointly within the Faculty of Education (home Faculty) and the Faculty of Pure and Applied Science.

the Faculty of Pure and Applied Science.

THE POSITION: The successful candidate will have a strong basic education in one of the science disciplines as well as in Education; and, will have engaged in scholarly work in relevant areas such as philosophy, curriculum or policy of science education, teaching, learning assessment, or the relationship of science, technology and society. Experience in teaching and conducting research on science curriculum, pedagogy, assessment or the use of technology in science education is desirable, as is experience in a multicultural context. Teaching experience at the elementary or secondary level will be considered an asset. The candidate will be expected to take a leadership role in the development of science education in both Faculties.

THE CANDIDATE: The candidate will have THE CANDIDATE: The candidate will have completed a doctorate and present evidence of broad engagement with the study and practices associated with the vacancy. The candidate must present evidence of the ability to: establish a strong program of scholarly research; provide excellence and leadership in undergraduate and graduate teaching and supervision in both Faculties; collaborate with colleagues in the field and across the University; and be actively involved in the field of science education.

APPLICATIONS: A detailed letter of application should address your qualifications and research in relation to the advertised position and to the context described above. Submit your curriculum vitae, one

FAX: 416-736-5609 NTERNET: busint@edu.yorku.ca (Bev Meniman, Secretary to Committee), (letters and C.V.s only can be sent online in WP format while scholarly materials must be mailed).

offering One Day Training Course Understanding

Condition, Medication, Management Strategies

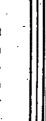
GREECE

Read from Dec '96 Degree/RSA Cert minimu Send letter of application CV and photograph to: Cambridge Teachers

A NEWSPAPER for their special data, 1642-1986, most titles avail-able, friest thribding gill, remainber When, Tat. 0181-688 6323. Or CALL FREE 0500 520 000.

Unusual Gifts

What's On PHANTON pop & sport, C.Dion,



THE APPOINTMENT: While preference

to appointments at the Assistant Professor level, initial rank and salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Departmental assignment within the Faculty of Pure and Applied Science will be warm me raciny of Pure and Applied Science with observed appointment would normally commence 1 September 1997. York University is implementing a policy of employment equity, including affirmative action for women faculty. Both Faculties encourage applications from qualified people of colour, Aboriginal First Nations people, and persons with disabilities.

or two samples of your scholarly writing, and the names/addresses of three or more potential referees

Joint Selection Committee (Science/Education), c/o Faculty of Education, S853 Ross, York University, 4700 Keele Street, North York, Ontario, Canada M3J-1P3.

CLOSING DATE: Applications, postmarked up to 31 January 1997, will be accepted.

GCSE & A LEVEL TEACHERS PART-TIME VACANCIES A small, independent, sixth form college with an outstanding record of academic success wishes to hear from energetic teachers. Working in small groups, the college is dedicated to unlocking academic potential through structure, supervision and support.

Part-time vacancies exist for the following subjects:

Accounting Biology and Charleton. Accounting, Biology and Chemistry.

Apply in writing, quoting ref IND/19/12/96 enclosing a CV to The Principal, Ashbourne ISFC, 17 Old Court Place W8 4PL Ashbourne

LANGUAGE COURSES ABROAD! NICE - MUNICH - FLORENCE - BARCELONA - DUITO COURSES STARTING EVERY PORTNIGHT... LASTING FROM 2 WEEKS TO 9 MONTHS SUTTABLE FOR ALL LEVELS, INCLUDING BEGINNERS

AD/HD Diagnostic and Treatment Centre

ADD&AD/HD

Call for details: 0181 203 3562 Cost £75. Fax: 0181 202 2819

Recruitment
33a Makryiani St.
New Halkidena
New Philadephia
Athera



Central Data Control Limited

Can you tell the difference between a const and a constructor? C/C++ devotee required for Junior Analyst/Programmer position in successful software development company. We are renowned for delivering state-of-the-art real-time graphical control and management information systems to the Security and Building Services markets. We require applicants to have at least a 2nd class degree in Computer Science, Electronics, or similar discipline, combined with some practical experience of working with MFCs, ISO Model Comms and Windows 3.5/NF4. Enthusiasm and professionalism ensure rapid responsibility for development projects and a good salary/benefit package. Is this you? if so, we're waiting for your CV.

All correspondence to be marked FAO: Patrick Bossert, Technical Director, at the address left.

Do you know your EISA from your VESA? PC/Multimedia enthusiast with modest programming experience required for Junior Systems Integrator position in successful software development company. We specialise in providing state-of-theart graphical control systems for the Security and Building Services markets. We similar discipline, combined with practical experience of configuring PC hardware, PC networking, and a good eye for graphic design. Enthusiasm and professionalism ensure rapid responsibility for client projects and a good salary/benefits package. Is this you? If so, we're waiting for your CV.

Lewisham College is one of the largest of

Landon's Colleges of further education and is a

The College has 750 staff and 10,500 students

whose work is enhanced by extensive contacts

with the immediate community.

leader in the provision of education and training.

Lecturer with Responsibilities

for Students with Learning

Difficulties and/or Disabilities

2 posts, one full time and one FTE 0.7

(14.565 - (16.869 plus **£2,001 kWajiro rata)**

Communications Skills and/or Numeracy, Personal

Development and Careers Education to students

curriculum models and learning support systems

with students with learning difficulties and/or

disabilities is essential for these two posts as is

experience of initial assessment placement and enrolment of students. You must also possess a

knowledge of current developments in Further

available from the Personnel Department.

hour answer service on 0181 694 2527.

3rd January 1997.

Education and training and the accreditation system.

Further details and an application form are

Lewisham College, Room 36, Breakspears Building,

Lewisham Way, London SE4 1UT, or call our 24

Please quote ref LC/SLD. Closing date

Lewishern College is committed to ensuring

place people at a

disadvantage and will

equality of opportunity for all

who learn and work here. We

strive positively and vigorously

to remove conditions which

which broaden the opportunities for their students.

A minimum of one year's teaching experience

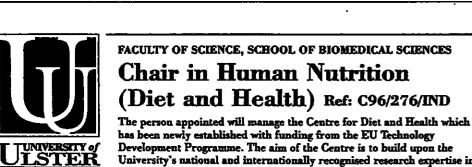
You must be actively committed to developing

Required as soon as possible to teach

who have been assessed as having moderate

and/or severe learning difficulties.

All correspondence to be marked FAO: Michael Anderton, Technical Support Manager, at the address left.



has been newly established with funding from the EU Technology Development Programme. The aim of the Centre is to build upon the University's national and internationally recognised research expertise in Human Nutrition and to develop collaborative research and development programmes with the food industry. These include the scientific evaluation of the potential of specific functional foods and the elucidation of nutrient-gene interactions.

Applicants must hold a doctorate in human nutrition or a related discipline and have a substantial record of refereed publications. Proven ability/potential to attract major external research funding and experience of successful management of a research team are also essential. Applicants must also have had linkages/collaborations with the food industry and centres of internationally recognised research excellence and have the ability to strengthen links between the University of Ulster and the food industry, locally, nationally and internationally. It is desirable for applicants to have expertise in the areas of functional foods or nutrientgene interaction and to have experience of collaboration with scientists in other relevant disciplines eg. molecular biology, genetics, immunology, biotechnology.

Not less than £32,000 Closing Date: 10 January 1997 Interview Date: 27 February 1997

Further details and application forms may be obtained from the Recruitment Office, University of Ulster at Coleraine, Cromore Road. Coleraine, Co Londonderry BT52 1SA. Telephone: (01265) 324946 or internal extension 4957.

An equal opportunity employer, the University encourages applications from both men and women, those with disabilities, and those from all sections of the community. All applications will be considered on merit. The University has a policy whereby smoking is restricted to designated

The British School of Osteopathy is a prestigious and well-

established training establishment for osteopaths. Duiring the final part of training, the students work with their own patients under supervision in the Clinic. It is for this Clinic that we require a selfmotivated team player who is prepared to work flexible hours to cover our busy reception which is open 10 hours each day. Duties include dealing with telephone enquiries, booking patient appointments, and cashier duties. Candidates will have previous experience in customer facing role, and need to have GCSE Maths and English as a minimum requirement. If you are well spoken and are looking for a challenging position then we would like to hear from you. Please send a covering letter and an up to date CV to:

Emily Strover Human Resources Manager, The British School of Osteopathy, 1-4 Suffolk Street, London SW1Y 4HG. Closing date: Thursday, 9 January 1997. http://www.bso.ac.uk

educates osteopaths, treats patients and promotes research.

The British School of Osteopathy is a Registered Charity which

To advertise in the Section please telephone 0171 293 2000

W University of

SCHOOL OF COMPUTING AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS St Peter's Compus, St Peter's Way, Sunderland SR6 00D. Tel: 0101 515 2758, Face (1191 515 2781 ernoik gillian.thompson@sunderland.ac.uk

A London based Shipbroking company is

looking to fill the position of Chartering

- mln. 3 years of Shipbroking experience

Please apply in writing with CV to:

Box No. 11835 The Independent, 1 Canada

Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL

TRAINING COURSES

NEW YEAR, NEW CAREER!

istaliers are always busy earning - why not join them! Short Courses in Regional Training Centres,

★ Full and complete instruction given for ALL Security Systems

in-depth knowledge of CIS shipping

market (including locally controlled

Manager for Russian desk.

tonnage and client base)

Russian speaker preferred.

Requirements to applicants:

MASTERS COURSES WITH JANUARY START DATES

MSc Decision Support Systems Current modelling and stimulation techniques combined with industrial and commercial problem-solving

MSc Knowledge Engineering (Applied Artificial Intelligence) Develops high level skills, enabling you to act in industry as a professional knowledge engineer.

A number it Training for Work funded places are available on these one-year full-time courses.

Further details from Gittian Thompson, Recruitment Officer

Sunderland

COLLEGE actively combat bigotry. A Force for Change

business & city BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR: JEREMY WARNER

CE wins Northern takeover battle

Chris Godsmark **Business Correspondent**

Northern Electric, the Tyneside regional power supplier, has lost its fight against the £782m hostile takeover bid by US-owned CE Electric by the narrowest of margins and in almost unprecedented circumstances, following extraordinary last-minute support from the company's biggest investor, the Prudential

The result, which remained on a knife-edge to the end, was al-most swung in Northern's favour by the Prudential's move to buy shares in the company in support of the existing management from investors who had

previously accepted the US bid. not to seek to challenge the the bank did not hold Northern By the close of the extended appeal result in the courts. offer deadline of 1pm on Christ-mas Eve, CE Electric spoke for 50.30 per cent of Northern shares, a small increase on the 50.13 per cent support declared

Victory for CE Electric followed the Takeover Panel's decision to reject an appeal by Northern against the deadline extension. Had the company won the appeal, CE Electric would have lost the battle, having gained only 49.77 per cent of shares by the original closing deadline of 1pm last Friday. Northern has apparently de-

The buying spree by the Pru-dential on Christmas Eve netted more than 900,000 Northern shares at 650p a share, the same price as CE's all-cash offer. It represented a stake of 0.8 per cent, raising the Prudential's shareholding in Northern to more than 12 per cent. Sellers are thought to have included Fleming Investment Management, Commercial Union, Equitable Life and UBS, the Swiss

banking group. Salomon Brothers, the US investment bank, denied suggestions it had sold a stake to the

Defending its action, a Prudential spokesman said: "Our interest is in shareholder value. We have agreed with the board of Northern and many indepen-dent commentators that 650p is too low. If an offer were to be made at the right price we would expect the board of Northern to recommend the offer."

Though the result spells the end of another epic struggle by David Morris, Northern's chairman, who fended off a bid by Trafalgar House, the inquest into the defence tactics employed by the company and its brokers BZW is far from over.

BZW faces an investigation by the Takeover Panel into the controversial £250,000 "performance" fee agreed with Northern.

The panel will try to establish why BZW did not move to alert it of the arrangement until last Thursday night, the day after it bought 2.3 per cent of the company's shares in an attempt to boost its bid defence.

A BZW spokesman maintained the fee was in no way related to success or failure of the Northern defence, and that "strenuous" efforts had been to contact panel officials about the fee on Thursday evening. In another development, it has be blocked permanently by the panel. It had been frozen pending the outcome of Northern's

As he headed back to the US for Christmas, David Sokol, chairman of power generator CalEnergy, which controls CE Electric, said he was delighted with the outcome. He said: "We think this is a victory for the maiority in face of considerable odds. We now look forward to returning the company to its more normal business of serving

Though Mr Sokol was seek-

emerged that the £250,000, which is on top of a flat-rate fee to BZW of around £1.5m, could quarters, a wholesale clearout of board directors was now in prospect. Only Ron Dixon, the commercial director, has been isked to stay on at the company, but is thought to have ex-

pressed a wish to leave. However, Northern's board will not disancear empty-handed. Executive directors, who were on two-year rolling contracts, are likely to receive pay-offs totalling more than £2m.

Mr Morris, who carned total pay last year of £296,000, including pension contributions. could see a pay-off of some £600,000. In addition, Mr Morris will make £39,635 from share options. Tony Hadfield, chief executive, earned £374,000 last year and could receive a pay-off of more than £600,000.

Unions want to meet with Mr Sokol to clarify the future for the company's 3,6(f) staff.

mBZW has asked us to point out that fees of £1.5m and £250,000 in connection with its defence of Northern Electric were agreed in writing by Northern on 27 November, BZW said it found the suggestion in The Indepen-dent on 24 December that it had £250,000 to be paid "very mis-leading" and wanted to make this position clear.

Sunderland scores on trading debut

Patrick Tooher

COUR

THE LATER

Investors in Sunderland football dub received an early Christmas present on Tuesday when shares in the Premier League club made a stunning stock market

The shares, offered to investors at 585p, closed at 732.5p, valuing the club at almost £60m. The substantial premium means fans who subscribed for the minimum application of 100 shares are already sitting on a paper profit of £147.50.

The success of the flotation was virtually guaranteed last week when Sunderland revealed that the public tranche was 2.7 times oversubscribed.

Strong demand for Sunderland's shares also underlines the stock market's hungry appetite for all things football as a growing band of clubs line up for a stock market listing to improve their financial clout both on and off the field.

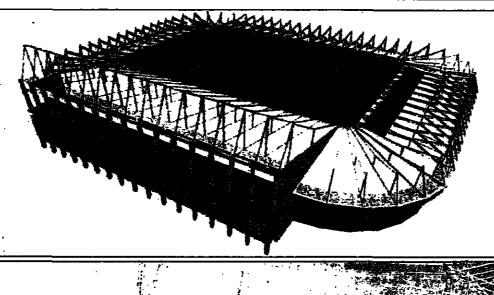
It also provides further proof that success on the pitch is not a prerequisite for a good per- David's offer of "assistance".

the team has struggled to put three passes together all season. Sunderland have spent most of the season flirting with relegation and last Saturday were trounced 5-0 at Manchester United - the biggest defeat in

Peter Reid's managerial career at Roker Park. Newcastle, West Bromwich Albion, Birmingham City, Southampton and Sheffield United are set to go public in the new year. Investors are attracted by the prospect of substantially enhanced television income from the screening of live matches on a pay-per-view basis.

Meanwhile, it emerged over the Christmas holiday that Southampton has rebuffed an offer from a consortium led by Sir David Frost to take a stake in the club, insisting that it would proceed with its plan to reverse into Secure Retirement, a listed healthcare and property company. In a statement issued on Tuesday, the company said it was bound by its agreement with Secure Retirement,

for example, have been among season, are expecting television the 20 biggest risers on the Lon- and media income to increase don stock market this year, yet more than tenfold to £3.5m to satisfy all the top clubs.





perform from next year when construction at the Monkwearmouth site, now well advanced, will be completed



this season, helped by a deal formance on the stock market. Sunderland, promoted from signed last summer between Shares in Tottenham Hotspur, Division One as champions last the Premier League and BSkyB. Analysts believe there is enough money sloshing around

Japanese investment bank No- chunky television revenue." "Sunderland and small clubs compared with New-

point," said Nick Knight, of still going to have access to some

costs of building its new stadium, worth £26.5m. The valuation, nearby parking site.

"We are not at saturation castle and Man Utd but they are scheduled to be completed next which assumed the stadium year. It will seat 42,000, and is had been completed, included being built at a cost of £17.25m. the 12 acres of freehold land on mura. "Sunderland and Sunderland tapped the equiSouthampton are relatively ty market in part to meet the said the new ground was already acres of leasehold interest in a

criticising Fairey's record on cre-

four temperature and pressure

businesses for a loss of £12m.

was rejected as far too low and

opportunistic by Burnfield,

which called on shareholders to support plans by management to complete the LDS acquisi-

tion. Shareholders will vote on

the LDS deal, as well as the

rights issue, at a special meet-

Burnfield recently sold its

The initial bid from Fairey

ating shareholder value.

Proud prospect (clockwise from top left): Sunderland's plans for the new £17.25m stadium, where the manager Peter Reid will be watching his team Photographs: North News

BR prefers US firm as freight bidder

Mathew Horsman

Wisconsin Central, the US rail corporation, has emerged as the preferred bidder for Railfreight Distribution, the Channel Tunnel international freight operation being sold by British Rail. The US group has aiready

bought some BR companies, including Rail Express, the mailby-rail system, and three trainload freight companies, which dominate the domestic rail freight business in the UK.

The announcement, which came out just before the Christmas break, may have been timed to avoid attention. Previous privatisations have attracted widespread criticism, particularly in cases where assets were being sold to foreign

companies.
Wisconsin's British operating company, English Welsh and Scottish Railway, is backed by financial institutions including US investment company Berkshire Partners, and was formed to buy Rail Express, the carriers of the Royal Mail, in December 1995.

By buying Railfreight Distribution (RfD), EWS would bring together operations that the Government had intended to sell separately. The sale of the three trainload freight companies to EWS early this year attracted criticism from the Opposition. The move exposed the "fiction of rail competition," a Labour spokesman said.

The heavily subsidised RfD, which links Britain to continental Europe through the Channel Tunnel, had losses of £58.6m in 1995/96 and is not expected to turn a profit for several years. BR has written off debt of £300m and made additional provisions of £200m against future liabilities, largely the cost of paying Eurotun-nel, the Channel Tunnel operating company, for access. RfD operates freight ser-vices to Italy, France, Spain and Germany, and runs about 160

trains a week. The British Railways Board said on Thesday it hoped to complete the sale by early 1997.

for BBC pay service

Media Editor

BSkyB, Rupert Murdoch's satellite broadcaster, is continuing to press for an equity stake in the new BBC-Flextech pay-TV channels, in return for carrying the services on its satellite system, the Independent has learned. Negotiations to secure satel-

lite carriage for up to eight pay-TV channels are set to resume in the new year, with BSkyB's chief executive, Sam Chisholm, determined to take up to 30 per cent in the venture. To date, both the BBC and Flextech, the US-controlled pay-TV pack-ager, have resisted BSkyB's offer of an equity investment, preferring to reach a carriageonly agreement with the UK's leading pay broadcaster. The new channels are to cost

£140m over four years to develop, with Flextech carrying the financial burden. The BBC

would supply programming.

The drawn-out negotiations have had the effect of delaying parallel talks between BSkyB is also eager to reach a carriage owned by Pearson, United



Determined: Sam Chisholm wants stake of up to 30%

agreement for satellite distribution. Channel 5 is keen to supplement its near-national coverage of about 80 per cent, which will be reached using a terrestrial signal, with side carriage agreements on both satel-lite and cable systems.

*Until BSkyB has decided what it is going to do about [BBC-Flextech], they are not able to assign transponder space to us," said David Elstein, chief executive of Channel 5 and the new Channel 5, which Broadcasting Channel 5.

News & Media and Luxem-bourg-based CLT is also looking into securing a transponder on its own, using Pearson's close ties with Astra, the satellite company. Pearson has 6.5 per cent of Astra.

Mr Elstein said the company had not yet decided whether to offer the new channel to all satellite subscribers in the UK (through the so-called "soft encryption" option) or only to those who have smart cards.

paid subscription fees for smart-card services and so do not receive any Sky programming. The Flextech-BBC deal, an-

nounced late this year, is part of the BBC's plans to take the public service broadcaster into the digital age. In addition to the new channels, the BBC plans to make its core services, BBC1 and BBC2, available on all available digital platforms, supplemented by a 24-hour news channel, an educational channel and other viewer services. I serted to restrict the size of

BSkyB revives pitch | Fairey boosts offer for Burnfield

Mathew Horsman

Fairey Group, the electronics and engineering manufacturing specialist, has made an "in-creased and final offer" for Burnfield which values the measuring equipment company at

The higher offer, which came after the Stock Exchange closed on Christmas Eve, is in the form of 25 new Fairey shares for each

92 Burnfield shares, and represents an 11 per cent increase. In addition, shareholders would get dividends from both Fairey and from Burnfield,

BSkyB has 4 million subscribers in the UK, who use a smart card to watch 40 pay-TV channels. Another 300,000 households have satellite dishes and decoders, but have not

which had forecast a pay-out of equipment company, or the as-2.2p per share. Including the sociated seven-for-10 rights is-dividends, the offer values each sue at 90p a share, aimed at record and the target company Burnfield share at 165p, a 65 per cent premium over the share price on 16 December, just be-

fore the hostile offer was announced. The shares closed on Tuesday at 142p. The original offer had been

for £51m, in the form of one new Pairey share for each four Burnfield shares held.

The bid is still conditional on the proposed £24m acquisition of Ling Dynamic Systems, the

raising £20.3m.

Fairey is keen to develop its industrial electropics businesses and repeated its claims that two companies could be profitably combined. "The Burnfield companies

are a good fit with two of Fairey's process technology businesses, LaserMike and Particle Measuring Systems," John Burnfield not proceeding with Poulter, Fairey's chief executive

The hostile bid has sparked a war of words between the two

privately owned vibration Dispute over liability resumes

刷 Treanor

Banking Correspondent Corporate financiers are poised to resume negotiations in their

long-running dispute with accountants over who should be liable when mergers and acquisitions go wrong.

The two sides have been arguing about the small print in documentation produced during corporate deals, with accountants attempting to get "limited liability" clauses in-

claims against them in the event of subsequent trouble. But this has posed problems for investment bankers, who fear that

blame could shift to them. The issue would be debated again in the new year, sources at the Big Six accountancy firms and at the London investment Bankers Association said. The LIBA said it was concerned that advisers would be unable to do their jobs properly unless the

Banks and accountants ac-

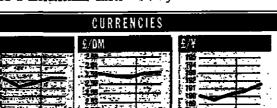
which accountants agreed not to put their limited liability clauses in public documents provided the bank involved was

meet with the accountants to discuss ways to make progres

a member of the LIBA. This measure has been running for a year and LIBA will

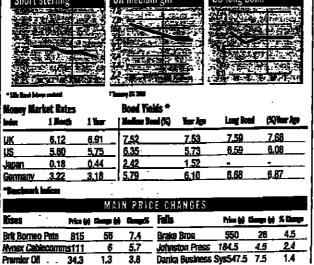
Kit Farrow of the LIBA said: "I see the continuation of the But he insisted that "the

long-term solution is a reform of the law of joint and severance liability



STOCK MARKETS

indices index	Close	Day's change	Change (%)	1996 iliş i	1996 Low	Tield(34)
FTSE 100	4092.50	+5.30	+0.1	4092.50	3 <u>532.3</u> 0	3.88
FTSE 250	4460.50		+0.1	4568.60	4015.30	<u>3,54</u>
FTSE 350	2030.70		+0.1	2030.70	1816.60	3.81
FT Small Cap	2165.55		+0.1	2244.36	1954.06	3 <u>.29</u>
FT All Share	2000.54		+0.1	2000.54	1791.95	3.77
New York	6522.85		+0.5	6547.79	3832.08	2.04
Tokyo	19161.71	-528.75	-2.7	22666.80	19161.71	0.811
Hang Kong	13341.61	+10.13	+0.1	13530.95	10204.87	3.111
Frankturt	1993 (191	closed	-	2909.91	2253,36	1.61†



INTEREST RATES

cepted a moratorium, under

§ (London) § (N York) DIM (London Y (London)	1.6733 1.2.5899 190.287	-0.32c -0.37pf +Y0.695	1.5430 2.2200 158.004	# (LON (LO E (N YO	ndon) 1.4 (<u>(ndon) 1.4</u> ((n) 114	5976 5539 .170	+0. <u>12</u> -0.6201 -Y0.13	0.6487 0.6481 1.4402 102.500	
E lindex	<u>94.1</u>	<u>unich</u>	83.0_	<u>S Inde</u>		98.4	unch	94.1	-
		(OTHER II	NDICATO) R S				I
	Tester by	Day's chy	Year Ago		luin.	Latest	Yr Ago	Meet Figs	
Oil Brent S	23.39	+0.20	17.82	RPI	153.9+	-2.7pc	149.8	16 Jan	•
Gold \$	369.00	+0.35	387.40	GDP _	108.9-	2.3pc	105.7	27 Jan	
Gold £	220.43	+0.02	251,64	Base Rat	#s — (5.00pc	6.75	_	

IN BRIEF

ing on 30 December.

 International CableTel, the US-owned UK cable operator, has threatened to sue rival operator, Montreal-based Videotron, for C\$84m, citing a breach of an agreement giving CableTel exclusive rights to negotiate a purchase of Videotron's UK holdings if they were ever sold. Videotron's controlling stake in Videotron UK was sold earlier th. vear to Bell Cablemedia, as part of a four-way merger giving birth to Cable & Wireless Communica-tions. C&W groups Videotron, Bell Cablemedia, Nynex CableComms and Mercury.

• The next meeting of finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven (G7) industrial nations was likely to be held in late January or in February, probably in Berlin, a senior finance source told Reuters. In the past several years, G7 ministers and central bankers have met a few times a year.

 The union representing workers at Lloyds-TSB said a half-day strike on Christmas Eve, to protest the bank's extended opening hours, had been a success, with thousands of members walking out. The bank had looked to provide full banking services even during the afternoon of 24 December, and called in managers to man stations following the walk out. Ed Sweeney, the general secretary of the Banking Insurance and Finance Union, said: There's still no evidence to support the bank's case that customers want a full banking service on the afternoon of Christmas Eve."

 Scottish house prices are at their highest level since August 1995, and are rising on an annual basis for the first time in 15 months, according to the October Scottish Housing Index. Produced by the Royal Bank of Scotland and Scottish Homes, the national housing agency, the index also shows that the volume of sales has risen for four consecutive months, although sales remain lower than a year ago. Not counting council house sales, sales were marginally higher than in October 1995.

 China Eastern Airlines would seek a share listing in New York and Hong Kong simultaneously at the beginning of 1997, the Xinhua news agency said on Wednesday. China Eastern would be the first Chinese carrier to issue shares overseas. Xinhua did not say if the airline had received listing approval from the Hong Kong and New York stock exchanges. China Southern Airlines would follow suit, Xinhua quoted an official of the Civil Aviation Administration of China as saying.

SPORTS QUOTES OF 1996: Mum has the last word in a year of sage sayings and verbal vigour. Compiled by Rob McLean

Why didn't you just belt it?

Barbara Southgate to her son Gareth after his penalty miss against Germany in Euro 96

before, for Crystal Palace at Ipswich. I hit the post and we went down that year. But I think I'd be far more comfortable now than I was then. Gareth Southgate, England defender, tempts fate before the semi-final.

No matter how much the other players try to console me, I'm stift left with the feeling that I let everybody down. Southgate. If you cut me open and had a look inside right now it couldn't be a pretty sight. I don't know if I can sink any lower. Gary McAllister, Scotland captain, on his crucial penalty miss against England.

It's Bavarian state law that beer isn't alcohol. It's a means of nutrition. Jürgen Klinsmann at the height of the "boozy England" forore.

He's a nice man with a nice family so it will make it difficult to kick him. Tony Adams on Arsenal team-mate Dennis Bergkamp before the England v Netherlands game.

Before the competition, everyone was laughing about England and their style. They will not be laughing now. Bergkamp after his side's 4-1 defeat to England. Not only the cows are mad in England. The English press is also infected. El Mundo Deportivo newspaper, after Spain-bashing stories before the marter-final

Why are the English the only people in the world who still claim the ball crossed the line in the 1966 final? Bild, German paper, during the jingoistic press build-up to the semi-final. I didn't see the ball. It's not my problem whether it crossed the ine. If it did I would remind you: this is how England won the 1966 World Cup. Bobby Mikhailov, Bulgaria's goalkeeper, after television replays showed that Romania had been denied an equaliser.

A goalkeeper is a goalkeeper because he can't play football. Rund Gullit, BBC pundit, after the antics of Russia's Stanislav Cherchesov gifted Italy a goal. You don't have to have been a horse to be a jockey. Arrigo Sacchi, coach of Italy, defends his limited playing career, before Euro 96.

There are two possibilities from this tournament. Either I shall be kissed all over my bald head or I will have tomatoes thrown at it. Sacchi, after Italy failed to make the quarter-finals.

Being an ex-England manager, politician. Graham Taylor.

Bob Paisley. Shanks built the team and Bob carried it on. People say it was easy to take over the reins. Look at what happened to Souness. He took over the reins and the horses ran wild. Stan Boardman, scouse comedian.

Whoever doesn't like Atletico winning ought to dic. Jesus Gil y Gil, the ever quotable pres-ident of Atletico Madrid.

This is the signing for the peo-ple of Newcastle. Kevin Keegan spends £15m on Alan Shearer. I'll always be a sheet metal worker's son from Newcastle. Alan Shearer introduces himself to the Geordie bordes. A waste of money. Gullit,

Chelsea manager, on the Shear-I am not Asprilla the crazy man. I am just like a little baby at heart. Faustino Asprilla, Newcastle's Colombian striker who joined the club for £7.5m.

They've nicknamed me Ena

I've only taken one penalty Sharples because my head's never out of the net. Ian Thain, Keith goalkeeper, after letting in 10 goals against Rangers in the Scottish Cup.

I think having Wasps around here gives us that little buzz around the place. Ray Wilkins, then QPR manager, on the Loftus Road ground-share.

There's nobody fitter at his age, except maybe Raquel Welch. Ron Atkinson on Gor-It might be enough for the

homeless but not for a top international striker. Pierre Van Hooydonk, Celtic's Dutch international striker, rejects the club's reported salary offer of

Sometimes I would have to go next door to get fed. I have seen people starving, and I know that side of life. Dwight Yorke, Ashood in Trinidad and Tobago. We are skint. We are desperate for money, we have no spon-sorship and we are selling the gear to have a night out. There is nothing wrong with that af-ter four years' hard training. Tony Ali and Robert Morgan, two of Britain's Olympic divers. justify selling their team kit on the streets of Atlanta. The British public only care

every four years and then they wonder why we can't produce the goods. Swimmer Paul Palmer, Britain's first medal winner in Atlanta, rues the lack of cash for British sport. We are drowning out there and we have become a laughing stock. David Wilkie, Britain's former 200m gold medallist, on the British swimming team's performance in Atlanta. All I do is eat, sleep, and train

six hours a day, six days a week. Michelle Smith, Ireland's multiple Olympic gold swimming medal winner, responds to drug innuendo about ĥer dramatic improvement.

If anyone sees me go near a boat again, they have got my permission to shoot me. Steven Redgrave, British rower, after winning his fourth Olympic gold, in the coxless pairs. I think the oldest rower to win a gold medal was 42. So I might have another couple of

Olympics in me. Redgrave

es his mind.

Life is a bitch, but that is it for me. I'll be 40 in the next Olympics. Linford Christie after his false-start disqualification in the 100 metres final. one that failed to qualify for the The way Christie behaved was World Cup, is like being a dead disrespectful. It affected my politician. Graham Taylor. race absolutely. If Γ d false-The greatest manager of all started twice I'd have just left. time. Kevin Keegan on the late

Ato Boldon, Trinidad's bronze

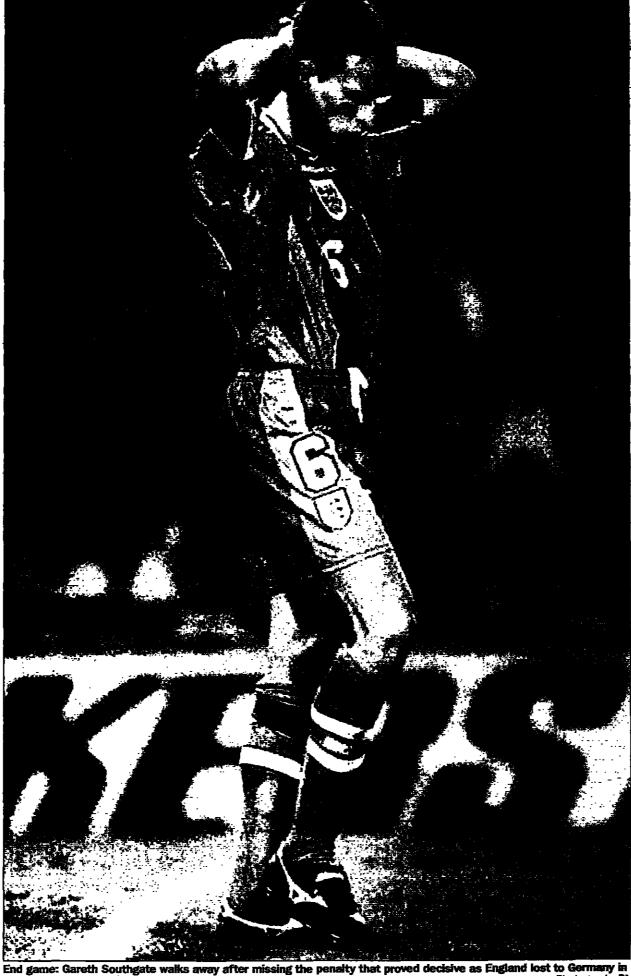
medallist. When you are in a race with Michael Johnson, there are two races going on. One with him and the other with the rest. Roger Black, Britain's silver

medallist in the 400m. I'm very consistent. I try to hit everybody. Charles Barkley, forward with the United States

basketball team. It was heart attack time for me. A split second later and a guy wearing all the wrong clothes would have dashed out there and become the most famous production assistant in history. Don Mischer, Olympic opening ceremony producer, after Muhammad Ali nearly failed to light the Olympic flame.

Any suspicious person not stopping at a security check will be shot, A Pakistani cricket official on crowd control methods in the World Cup.

British lion; weak in the paw. long in the tail. England walked



to the gallows like criminals rather than martyrs. Indian Express, after England's World Cup defeat by New Zealand. We couldn't beat a team of Eskimos. Ian Botham on England's World Cup.

Will someone remove this buf-foon? Mike Atherton, England captain, to Pakistani journalist. He had a pizza last night. Now it's on the field out there. Ray Illingworth, chairman of selectors, after Neil Smith was sick during a World Cup match against the UAE.

I don't particularly care if a guy is green, yellow with pink spots and comes from Mars. If I'm

playing sport against him. Botham, accused of being a racist by Imran Khan.

Imran and I are not on talking terms. Yes, I once said he should be stoned to death, but I think in this case he was in the right. Sarfraz Nawaz on Imran Botham and Lamb.

but his boy gets me out in seven halls. Mike Gatting after women. Roberto Carretero on being dismissed by Botham's son, Liam, who was making his first-class debut for HampHe bored me to tears. He went son, Liam, who was making his first-class debut for Hampshire, against Middlesex. He could show the youngsters how to roll a joint, but that's Small, snooker player, after

playing sport against him. I'm about all. Ian Chapple on the playing sport against him. prospect of Botham joining the

England management. This has to be one of the finest courses Chris Bonington ever built. The PGA are providing oxygen on the first and 10 tees. Mark Roe, golfer, on the high-altitude setting for the Madeira

lan never got me out in 15 years This will help me in terms of to the toilet at least four times in one and a half frames. Chris

losing to Karl Broughton in the International Open. NBA players are smart enough

to know you get the virus from unprotected sex, and we're not going to have unprotected sex on the basketball court. Rony Seikaly, Golden State centre, showing no anxiety about fac-ing Magic Johnson after his re-turn to basketball.

Unless people see me on the ski slope, they think I'm an accidentprone berk. Eddie Edwards nakes another comeback. I have the body of a man half my age. Unfortunately, he's in terrible shape. George Foreman,

'The charisma of a jellyfish'

THE BAD. THE MAD - AND GAZZA

You know if everything is going Before that I was like a child, sort of waiting to do the next stupid thing. But what I have learned is not to make the well, you get drunk for a cou-ple of days. Paul Gascoigne on same mistake twice. Eric Can-

Gazza is not longer a fat, drunk-en imbecile... he is in fact a football genius. Daily Mirror editorial headed "Mr Paul Gascoigne: An Apology", after his Enro 96 goal against Scotland. I'm a disgrace. Gascoigne, who beat up his wife and was sent off playing for Rangers against

Gascoigne has created a monster for himself. Desmond Naked Ape' Morris, homan be-

I looked in the mirror and I didn't like what I saw. Tony Adams, of Arsenal and England, confesses to being an alcoholic. It took a lot of bottle for Tony

to own up. Yan Wright. You walk along the street and people say you're a coward, that you missed penalties, that you're fat, even that you're a junkie. Nobody has the right to make my daughters cry. Diego Maradona. I have not ruled out the fear that Diego could suddenly die on a football pitch or walking down the street. Ricardo Grimson, a doctor treating Maradona for

We don't need people like Vinnie Jones, who is just a selfhyped personality. He isn't a good player and is of no bene-fit to the game. Gary Lineker, former England captain, and BBC sports presenter. Lineker has the charisma of a

jellyfish - and he is just as wet.

He is a jellyfish without a sting.

Jones fights back.

put his flag up, and he'd have got plenty of help. Ron Afkinson on an errant linesman. The referee was booking every one. I thought he was filling in his lottery numbers. Ian Wright. It is a very sad day for English football. Players get stick all the time from the fans, but it seems you cannot have a go back Mark Bosnich, Aston VII-

tona on his kung-fu kick and the

community service sentence it

You know Dennis Wise. He

could start a fight in an empty

I know where he should have

house. Alex Ferguson.

earned him.

la goalkeeper, on his Nazi salute to Tottenham fans. He doesn't know anything. Every time I see him I feel sick. Brad Gilbert, Andre Agassi's coach, on Ronnie Leitgib, Thomas Muster's coach. His comments probably come

from eating too many hamburgers with English meat. Muster on Agassi, who accused the Austrian of paranoia. You short-brained or what? We go to Eurosport after the match and we check out the replay. If I am right, you'll never be up on the chair again. Michael Stich, former Wim-

Richard Kaufman. We are more important than the Catholic Church. Juan Antonio Samaranch, IOC life presi-

bledon champion, to umpire

'There is peace in our time'

RUGBY RUCKS AND CIVIL WAR

like the Five Nations over the telephone. Bill Bishop, outgo-ing Rugby Football Union president, after England had been thrown out by the other home unions over the TV deal with Sky.

Democracy no longer prevails within the RFU. The television negotiators have taken a quick fix Chiff Brittle, RFU chairman, on the Sky deal.

Most players are fed up with the whole thing. Will Carling, former England captain, on the constant wrangling between the RFU and its top clubs. English rugby was haemor-rhaging. Reality dawned on everybody. People wanted to know why we were tearing each other apart. Tony Hallett, the RFU secretary, as rogby union's

civil war was resolved. There is peace in our time. Col-in Herridge, RFU treasurer. There are many evils in the world and two of the worst are money and greed. Everything is now geared towards winning. You didn't see the professional fouls in the past and you do

now, and the game's social side

"I try to keep my bra on"

McBride, former Lions captain, on the modern game. I'm 48, an ageing dinosaur. My

perspective is moulded by my perspective is motituded by my age. But I hate everything that's happened. Friendship and loyalty have been smashed. Andy Ripley, former England No 8, on the turmoil in British rugby. Being dropped and Take That splitting up on the same day is enough to finish anyone off. Martin Bayfield keeps his sense of humour after being left out of the England union team to

face Scotland. We've got to have a few thugs. Scott Gibb, Welsh RU international, calls for more RL internationals to be brought back. The League could not promote blanket sales in Alaska. Ken Arthurson, Australian Rugby League chairman, dismisses proposals by the British Rugby League to run Super League in Australia.

If Rupert Murdoch told you to go down to Central Park tomorrow and expose yourself, you would. Caller to Ringby League chief executive Maurice Lindsay on C4's Nightsports.

bughton prepa shine in Austr

'He looks terrified'

CHOKES OF THE YEAR

screwed up but I'm not a loser. I've got 40 million bucks. Greg Norman, after his defeat by Nick Faldo in the Masters, when he blew a six-shot lead on

the final day. They just sat and watched, which was kind of ceric for a golf tournament. Faldo on the final-

round atmosphere.
I played like shit, that's what happened. Norman, after being I am just looking forward to exasked by a reporter what hap-

In that moment Nick went up in my estimation. We both had tears in our eyes. It was something very special. Norman on Faldo at the death.

It's amazing how many people beat you at golf when you're no longer president. George Bush. He looks terrified. I've never training for this fight my sparseen a champion look less like ring partners was whippin me a champion. New York boxing writer as Frank Bruno climbed into the ring before his world He wasn't as good as 1989 but I have the greatest respect for Cup defeat to Kenya.

It's not the end of the world. I he was a darn sight better than I thought he was going to be. Bruno on Tyson after losing. It hurts when people get the idea that I'm some kind of

pantomime freak. Bruno. The last time Bruno fought Tyson I had a bet on Frank. But I also had a bet on Elvis Presley sitting at ringside. John H weight champion.

pressing a lot of pain. Mike Tyson before his world heavyweight title fight against Evander Holyfield.

There's no contest. It's a complete and total mismatch. Micky Duff, promoter, predicts Holyfield's destruction by

No one realises that when I was up. It was discouraging but I maybe get along. But if you have prayed and I got through it. I a bad team and a bad managewas going to be prepared. Holyfield, after beating Tyson.

you. I just want to shake your hand. Tyson to Holyfield. I can't remember a thing after the third round. Tyson.

I get paid far too much money to think about quitting boxing. I get \$30m for stepping into the ring. Tyson, after his defeat. Everyone has talked about our collapse but that doesn't do justice to what Manchester United achieved. Kevin Keegan, Newcastle manager, after his side collapsed during the title run-in. All I can do is apologise to all my fans. I feel really sorry for them. Andre Agassi, after going out in the first round to Doug Flach at Wimbledon.

My only desire now is to get drunk. I've lost all my skills as a player. Alexander Volkov, tennis player, in defeat. If you have a good team but a had management, you can maybe get along. But if you have

ment you get f****. Brian Lara after West Indies' World

HILL AND HENMAN

'Hill showed he

was the weakest'

Right now I feel like I'm on a I'm not concerned about being rocket that's about to take off. British No 1. I'm interested Damon Hill, after being in improving my world ranking. crowned Formula One world

got a lump in my throat. Forgive us in Australia, New Zealand, Canada and everywhere else if we feel emotional, because that's our boy. Murray Walker, BBC motor racing commentator. celebrates Hill's success. Hill clearly showed he was the weakest because with the best car it took him so long to become world champion, Nikki Lauda, former world champion.

Please don't think I hate Damon. If I wasn't a racing driver we could have been friends. He has his days, like a woman her periods. Michael Schumacher. Maybe he doesn't like Schumachers. Michael's brother Raif, on Hill's decision not to

in improving my world ranking. That's what matters. Henman. It could only happen in Britain. I've got to stop now because I've At the French Open last week they even allowed Yannick Noah to sing a song on Centre Courl David Lloyd, British

Davis Cop captain, on the de-

cision to put Tim Henman, Britain's No 1, on an outside court at Queen's. The Royal Box was practically mours that Jean Alesi's girl-empty. You have to ask where friend had been banned from their priorities lie. Obviously, you cannot interrupt the great British hmch. Buster Mottram, former British No L, after Henman had played his quarter-final against Todd Martin to a half-empty Centre

Court When I look at all the attention I've received this year, God only

WOMEN ON THE EDGE

We are broke. Everything is gone. Diane Modahl, British athlete, on the high price of try-

Women compete better after an orgasm, especially high jumpers and runners. Israeli scientist Alexander Olshanietzky, urging his nation's athletes to have sex at the Olympics.

ing to clear her name of drugs

I try to keep my bra on at all times. Georgie Hill, Damon's wife, explains how she avoids being a "distraction" after ruthe pits.

You look very nice this evening, Sue. But don't take that as a compliment. I'm visually impaired. Simon Jackson, Paralympic judo gold medallist, to Sue Barker during the BBC's Sports Review of the Year.

Our last referee only had one eye.

Our last referee only had one eye.

Our last referee only had one eye.

We played on his blind side. Mary knows what it would be like
If I ever won Wimbledon.

Mangham, striker with Argyll
It. If you look at her today, she's
running like a gazelle. She
ton-on-Tees, average age 82.

The worst thing about playing tres. Martina Navratilova, for-for Great Britain is the sleeve-mer world No 1, who thought less shirts. It means you have to shave your armpits before every

game. Karen Brown, hockey in-

ternational. I caught with a good right to the jaw and lots of body shots. Lloyd Honeyghan, former world welterweight champion, after attempting to stop three girls shoplifting.

Ms Ferguson is a friend of mine. But there is nothing else. Thomas Muster, tennis world No 3, on rumours of a remance with the Duchess of

It's very hard on our family, and if this is business, I don't like business. Steffi Graf, world ten-

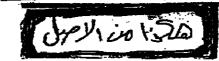
The injuries are just an excuse ahead of time in case she needs mer world No 1, who thought Graf was faking injury prob-

Martina is bucky she doesn't She should know better than to say these things after all the time we've known each other.

With all of the comments some of you have made that I'm not strong enough or mentally tough enough at the end, I proved - not only today but in the past - that's not the case. Jana Novotna, renowned for "choking", replies to her crit-ics after beating Monica Seles in the Olympic tennis quarter-

finals. Once I even bought a blonde wig so as not to be recognised. Gabriela Sabatini, on her retirement from women's

Out there it's every man for himself. Alex Greaves, who became the first woman to compete in the Derby.



arism

Tale Date the line

Lib Gebrae . Car market · Latt Plants are then the · · · \Let Period 4 malberper El

! ad tallen 🙀

or targety a

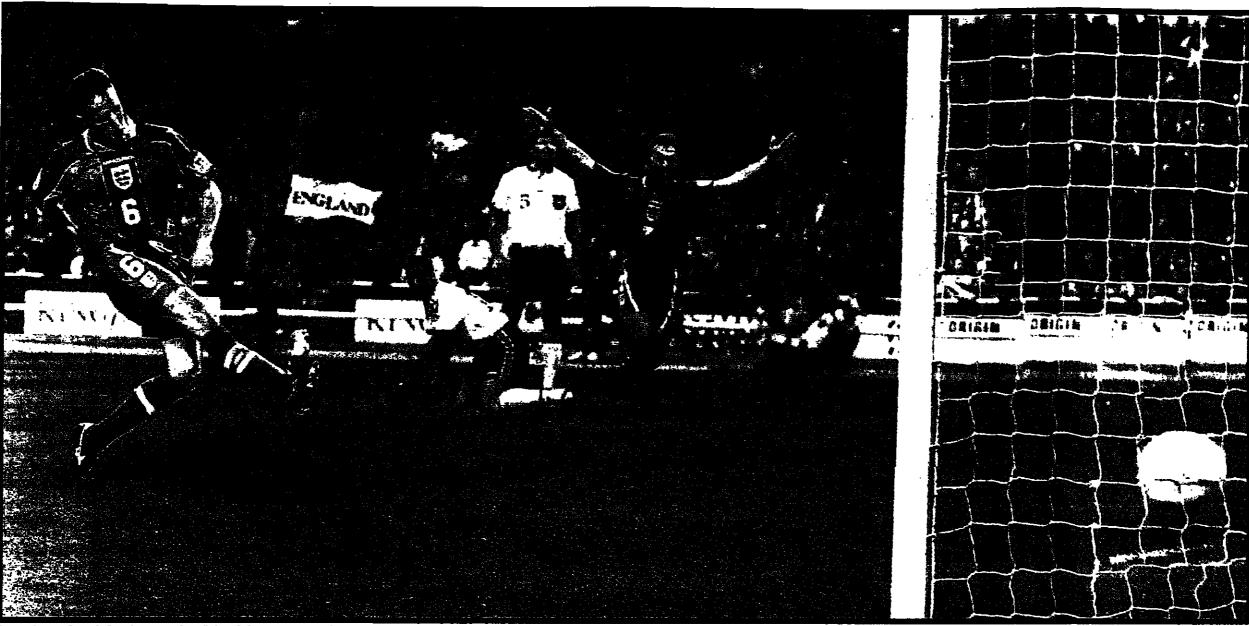
Variation Case the Assertander

Lige

Samulanda (K.)

and the state of the parties of the

...and what if he had done?



Born winner: Gareth Southgate makes light of the pressure and cracks home his penalty to keep England on course for shoot-out success against Germany in the Euro 96 semi-final at Wembley

Photomontage: Jonathan Anstee

M. Bori Not E 🚗

Gareth Southgate had scored from that penalty?

t was the devil-may-care attitude as president!".
which did it, that casual admission Yet how pres which did it, that casual deni-final, that even before the semi-final, possibility, it had not even crossed his penalties. When someone pointed out that the only previous penalty he had taken - and missed - had AND CIVILI cost Crystal Palace a place in the Premiership, the legend was complete.

From a player of such limited experience, the kick was a revelation. It was struck with astonishing force, and Andreas Köpke was rooted to his line as the ball whistled past his head at such speed that the German keeper would be admitted to hosdegree burns to his left ear. Thirty pital shortly afterwards with secondhis kick into the second-tier burger concession and Southgate was borne away down the tunnel on the shoul-

ders of his team-mates. No longer the gawky defender with a lispy grammar-school accent, Southgate was suddenly a national hero. Garra-mania took hold. That very night, printing presses around the country whirted into action. Within 48 hours, no adolescent bedroom wall was complete without its

boys as Final day approached, even if the citizens of the Czech Republic proved a little more resistant to stereotyping than the Germans. By Saturday morning, the Mirror was getting desperate. "You Havel got to be joking", one headline read. Egghead Czechs have a playwright

Yet how prescient it proved to be in the first half of the final. The Czech's football oozed intelligence and culture, and Patrik Berger's hat-trick barely reflected their superiority. The moment had arrived rial masterstrokes.
"The guv'nor didn't say a word

when we got to the dressing-room," Teddy Sheringham recalled later.
"He just switched on the telly. Alan Hansen was laughing so much he couldn't even interrupt Jimmy Hill. After that, we couldn't wait to get stuck in."

Venables' ruse worked perfectly on all but Stuart Pearce, the only England player who was already fully motivated, and who suffered a severe emotional overload as a result. Fortunately, Pearce's subsequent attempt to impale Karel Poborsky with a spare corner flag took place form of Southgate stepped up to the in the tunnel, and the ugly scenes as spot. Matthews, Finney, Moore, in the tunnel, and the ugly scenes as a dozen security guards attempted to restrain the Forest full-back thus

went unrecorded by photographers. Knocked out by an elephantine dose from the tranquilliser dart which eventually brought him down, Pearce was oblivious to the drama unfolding on the pitch. Alan Shearer's injury ear-

been compounded when the zi, on Robbie Fowler's tracksuit top jammed, and the striker was sidelined while the St John's Ambulance tried to cut him free.

While they struggled, however, Southgate was pushed into emergency service up front, to immediate and astounding effect. Confidence boosted by the 35-yard screamer which removed the keeper's front teeth on its way into the net, Southgate then lobbed him from five yards inside his own half less than five minutes later. When England won a freefor one of Terry Venables' manage- kick 25 yards out, Wembley went wild as Southgate manhandled Gascoigne away from the ball before calmly curling his shot into the top corner for

a 10-minute hat-trick. Who can say how different things might have been if Fowler had not finally been released from his tracksuit? Southgate returned to a defensive role, and from then on, fighting spirit alone could not break down the gritty Czech defence. Once again, the shoot-out beckoned.

At 5-4 down, the palms of Eng-lish hands were getting a little sweaty, until the slim but reliable Charlton, Southgate - his name was surely inked in already on England's roll of honour. Throughout the length and breadth of Soho,

Britain's media duly got behind its ly in the second half seemed to have score like Gareth") to condoms There were those among the press

So what went through his mind at that crucial moment? "I thought of what my mum said to me after the Germany game," he explained later. "Gareth, she said, why the hell did you blast it? Think what a prat you'd have looked if it had gone over the bar. Didn't Waddle and my words. Next time, try a hopeless, limp-ankled poke to the goalie's right. He won't be expecting that." The rest, of course, is history...

Zimbabwe had faced some serious opposition this winter?

t's just so frustrating," David Lloyd said, shortly after the letter dropped on to his doormat. "We're really not as bad as people think." The communiqué was from the Zimbabwean cricket authorities. "We're very sorry," it read, "but tickets for the Test matches just aren't selling. People want the whiff of competition, the possibility that we

ed the Netherlands instead."

might actually lose. So we've invit-

corps who complained that the Falkland Islands were not quite in cricket's top division, but that, of course, was nothing but sour grapes, a result of the unexpected cancellation of their winter in sub-equatorial Africa.

And so it was that Mike Atherton and company found themselves Pearce teach you anything? Mark clambering out of a Hercules transport on to the tarmac of Port Stanley airport. They could be forgiven for looking a little bemused, not least upon discovering that the very same runway would form the wicket for their opening match, against the Baggage Handlers XI. In the circumstances, their 152-run

defeat was hardly a disgrace. "It was the wrong kind of tarmac," Lloyd insisted. "We're really not as bad as people think." A similar excuse "the wrong kind of shingle" - was advanced following the 10-wicket mauling at the calloused hands of the South Georgia Beachcombers Second XI. By the third day of the first Test, however, it was wearing a little thin. "They are," the coach declared, "the wrong kind of sheep."

It was fortunate indeed for the tourists that their visit coincided with the shearing season. Their opponents were forced to concede the match shortly before lunch on day four, but the spanking new pullovers each member of the England party received were by now of little conso-

moment of self-discovery was at England were trailing by 190 runs

with a single wicket in hand as the rig started to disintegrate into the south Atlantic. "Oh God," the coach exclaimed as the icy water lapped around his neck. "We really are as bad as people think."

Tim Henman had won Wimbledon?

ronic, isn't it?" Tim Henman said last week. "At the time, it seemed like the greatest moment of my life. Now, six months on, I can see that winning Wimbledon was the worst thing that ever happened

It seems like much more than six months since that blistering backhand cross-court pass left Richard Krajicek belly up, and Henman as the first British winner of the men's singles since Fred Perry. Little did he realise how that legacy would come to haunt him.

The Champions' Ball was the where it all started to go wrong. Henman and Steffi Graf made an attractive couple as the band struck up the first dance, and the women's champion was muttering more than sweet nothings into the young Briton's ear. I was a bit taken young men with pony-tails devised witty taglines to launch a thousand endorsements, for everything from boots ("for blokes who want to organised at such short notice."

It is a testament to the enormous against the Oil Rig Salvage Crews' aback," he recalls, "the music drowned her out and all I could hear organised at such short notice.

wanting to give me some serious attention. Then I realised she meant my accounts, and she was giving me her dad's phone number.

An attempt to emulate the success of the Fred Perry clothing range seemed a logical departure, and on the recommendation of his newly appointed financial advisor, official Henman shirts were manufactured in Ulan Bator, prior to import into Britain via Afghanistan, the Cayman Islands, Colombia and a yacht out of

In hindsight, the problem was obvious – the ran flect the man himself. Shy and understated at the very time when brashness was back on the catwalks of Paris and Milan, the Henman collection took up such stubborn residence on high-street shelves that several stores started charging rent. As Henman's bank balance suffered, so too did his form, and within a few short weeks, the only figure larger than his overdraft was his world ranking.

Then, just when it seemed that things could not get worse, HM Customs intercepted the latest consignment of "clothing", 150 miles off Penzance. "For otwious reasons, I simply can't comment." Henman said. "And anyway, visiting time is over."

Emerson's wife had liked Middlesbrough?

Please. Be serious

Broughton prepares to shine in Australia

STUART ALEXANDER

front of international yacht racing begins in Australia tomorrow when a crew skippered by helicopter pilot Mick-Broughton contests the Melbourne to Hobart Race. Broughton and his crew of nia Naval College at Dartmouth and including one female subbie, have chartered a 36-foot Swarbrick-designed yacht for a series of races which has already

mance handicap series. In the longer term they have a British three-boat team to contest the Southern Cross series in Sydney next December and their manager, Tony Higham, is confident they will be backed by a major sponsorship package early in the New Year.

"It's a bit frightening as we are motor sail under jury rig to the probably the youngest team in Chatham Islands. the race and now we have been installed as favourites," he said. France's Christophe Augin has a near 1,000-mile lead in the Hawaii today.

Vendee Globe singlehanded non-stop round the world race over the Canadian Gerry Rouis. He is also about 10 days ahead A year-long campaign to put the Royal Navy back at the foredays set by Thouan Lamazou in 1989/90.

Britain's Pete Goss has moved into seventh place as Yves Parlier has arrived in Freemantie, Australia to replace a smashed rudder and so disqualify himself for receiving seven, mainly from the Britan- outside assistance. Goss has the only 50-foot boat in the race, all the rest are 60 feet, but as gear damage has taken its toll and reduced the fleet from 14 to 10 so he is able to hope for a top six place at the finish early in February at Les Sables d'Olonne.

seen them notch up wins in two inshore series and a perfor-All 14 BT Challenge yachts are still in the west with Mike their sights set on being part of Golding (Group 4) expected to complete the second, 6,600mile leg from Rio de Janeiro to Wellington on Sunday. Forty miles astern is Andy Hindley (Save the Children) and a further 100 miles behind is Simon Walker (Toshiba). Conditions Broughton is now conscious are becoming warmer as the of the focus he has attracted as fleet moves north. The disthe only British entry in the race. masted Concert continues to

> The eight yachts in the Clipper 96 race start their fifth leg from the Galapagos Islands to

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Matches not on pools coupons; 3.0 unless stated

6M VAUCHALL CONFERENCE: Abhrichem v Mecclesfield; Famborough v Barb; Gatashead v Stalyandage; Hallist v Northwich; Heyea v Wolving; Kettering v Rushden & Diemonds; Kidderminster v Bromsgrove (11.30); Southport v Morecambe; Steverage v Siough; Tellord v Hednestord; Welling v Dover (13.30).

LIMIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: Accringson v Bamber Bridge; Alfreton v Leek; Blyth v Guiseley; Colwyn Bay v Knowsley; Emley v Frickley; Gearsborough Trinity v Boston Lint; Hyde Lipt v Button; Lancaster v Barrow; Mexine v Chorley; Spernymoor v Bishop Auckland; Wirson v Windsof, First Division: Ashron Utd v Congeton; Atherson LR v Netherfield; Custon Ashron v Raddriffe Borough; Passley Cedit v Stockshridge (12.0); Fibton v Droylsden (11.0); Gretna v Whidey Boy (1.0); Herrogate Rown v Bradford Park Avenue; Leigh RMI v Mchiengton; Lincoh Utd v Wolsop (11.30); Matlock v Esstwood Dwrt; Werington V Gressler Harscoot.

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Division: Incom Uni v Worksop (11.30); Martiock v Esskopod Ibar; Wanington v Great Harwood. DR MARTEMS LEAGUE Premier Division: Ashidod v Stringtoums (11.0); Burton v Geseley Rovers (11.30); Gloucester v Chelmontom; Gravesend v Chelmostot (11.30); Helesower Town v Workester, Hessings v Craskey; Hing's Lyrin v Cambridge Cay; Martinyr lydid v Newport AFC (12.0); Nuneaton v Atherstone (12.0); Safebury borthester; Sucbury Ibario Welstock. Midland Division: Biston v Southridge; Grantham v Corby (11.30); Bleeston Town v Hinckley Town: Reunds v Rostmeil (11.30); Reddictiv Lessham (12.0); Snepshed Dynamo v Ternworth (11.0); Solihuli Borough v Moor Green (11.0); Safford v Dudley; Sutton Codifield v Paget Rangas (11.0); VS Rugby v Bedworth (12.0); Snepshem Divisions Beahley v Hawam; Brith & Behedere v Dartford (12.0); Fareham v Waterhowille; Forest Green v Cinceriott Margiste v St Leonards Stammorif; Torbridge v Fisher (11.30); Torwbridge v Witney (11.30); Weston-super-Mare v Circleriott Margiste v St Leonards Stammorif; Torbridge v Fisher (11.30); Weston-super-Mare v Circleriott (12.0); Carsham Wood v Bleitop's Stortford (12.30); Bromley v Duhwich Hamlet (12.0); Carshabor v Sutton Urd (12.0); Degenham & Rectordge v Heybridge; Gays v Puriteet (11.0); Storres v Vasding (11.30); Croydon v Whyteleafe; Makisher Besingstole v Aldenshor; Berkhamstad v Barron (11.30); Corydon v Whyteleafe; Makisher Head v Hampton (11.30); Merlow v Ubbridge

C11.30); Molessey v Walton & Hersham: Thame v Abingsion Town; Woldingham v Chesham (11.0); Worthing's Bognor Regis. Second Division: Benseed v Horsham (13.0); Bersiond v Leighon (11.0); Bracknest v Hungerford; Challons St Peter v Hernel Hempstzed (11.0); Collier Row & Romford v Ware (12.0); Dordeng v Leatherhead; Windsor & Ebon v Eglam (11.0); Werenlos v Witham (11.0); Third Division: Assisy v Caponn (11.0); East Trurrock v Bensynes (11.0); Henford v Harlow (11.0); Lewes v Epoom & Ewelt; Ting v Southalt; Westistone v Northwood; Wingste & Finchley v Kingsbury (1.0).
URILET SUSSEX COURTY LEASIE Piret Division (sti 11.0); Anundel v Pegham; East-bourne Town Languey Sports; Hassocies v Bungses Hig: Horsham YMCA v Wide; Ringmer v Hellsham; Saltidean v Pescelawen & Telscombe; Selsey v Portfield; Southwick v Shoreham; Three Bridges v Celevood; Whitehawk v Mile Cak.

HR. SPORT UNITED COUNTES LEAGUE Precoler Division: Boston Town v Holbeach (12.30); Bourne v Spaiding Long Buckly v Ford Sports (12.0); Minriess Blackstone v Starmfort; Northampton Sperice v Costerios (11.0); Portfient V Sportfield (11.0); Portfient Sperice v Costerios (11.0); Portfient V Sportfield (11.0); Portfient V

V Stamfort: Northampton Spenser v Co-genhoe (11.0); Porton v Stotfold (11.0); St Neors v Eynesbury (11.0); Stewars & Lloyds Corby v Desborough (11.0); Welling-borough v Newport Pagnell (11.0); Woot-ton v Rempston (11.0).

borough v Newport Pagnet (11.1.0); vvoorton v Kempston (11.0).

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE First Division: Blacispool Rovers v Darwen;
Burscough v Boote; Credeterion v Atherton
Colleries; Cithence v Rossendale; Eastwood
Hanley v Newcestle Town (1.0); Glossop
North End v Salfond; Krdagrove v Nentwich
(12.0); Penrith v Hober Old Boys (2.15);
St Helsne v Malne Road; Traffort v Mossley; Vaudrell GM v Prescot.
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: Lymingson v
Brockenhung (11.30); Andoverv Winschuch
(11.30); BAT Sports v Totton (11.30); Bemerton Heath v Downton (12.0);
Christohurch v Romedy (11.0); Eastleigh v
Aarostructures (11.0); Portsmouth RN v
Gosport (11.0); Ryde V East Coves; Tratchart v Petersfield; Wimborne v Bournemouth
RC (11.30); MC EDPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE

FC (11.30).

NTIFILINK EUPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE
(all 11.0); Stawich v Palsalt; Bridghorth v
Shiftet Chasetown v Boldmest; Hindstey Athletic v Barwelt; Knypersley v Rocester; Oldbury v Halesowen Hamers; Pershore v
Stratfort; Rushalf v Blekersel; Stapenhilf v
West Midlands Police; Willenhalf v Sandwell.
JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE Premier Division (11.0 unless stated: Bury Town v Des
(12.0); Rebistowe v Woodbridge; Gorleston
v Great Varmouth: Hadeligh v Stownerfez;
Halststad v Tiptree; Harwich v Clacton; Soham v Newmarker; Sudbury Wanderers v

V Marici; WHOMEOT LEAGUE Premier Di-vision: Bristol Marior Farm v Mangossieid (11.0); Backwel v Brisington; Barnstaple v Bidetont; Bridgont v Bridgwater; Calhe v Chippenham (11.0); Westbury v Odd Down (11.0); Thertian v Emore (12.30).

(11:0): Therion v Elmore (12:30).
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN
LEAGUE First Divisions Shidon Vests Auchlend (13:0): Whithy v Gusborough (13:30).
NORTHERN COUNTES EAST LEAGUE
Premier Division: Hudrail v Arnold (12:0).
Whistron EAD MENT LEAGUE Beclerham
v Cay (11:30): Creshaw v Condemit: Paverstram v Dest (11:0): Furness v Lordswood
(12:0): Ramsgate v Folkestone (11:0).
SMENOFF RISH LEAGUE Premier Division: Ands v Cittonalle; Crustolers V Coloraire;
Gleravon v Fortadows; Linfield v Gleration,
First Division: Ballymens v Omagh; Carrick v Ballychre; Lame v Distillery; Newy v
Bangor.

net v Banycere; Lame v Desmeny; Newy v Bangor.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City v Cemaes Bay; Bany Town v Inter Cable-Tel Cardiff (11.30); Camarthen v Banton Fany; Cornain's Quey v Lansamffreid: Ebbw Vale v Cwmbran; Fint v Holywell (1.0); Newtown v Caeraws; Porthmadog v Caermafon; Rhyl v Corney; Welshoool v Aberystwyth.

FRENDLY MATCHES: Badey v Dewsbury (12.0): Huddersfield v Neightey (1.0); Leeds v Halifax (11.30); Wigan v St Halens (3.0). Postponed: Workington v Cadisle.

Rugby Union

CLIB MRTCHES: Hartepool Rovers v West Harte-pool (2.15); Harstok v Jed-Forest (2.0); Netso v Salari (2.0); Metode v Gala (2.0); Northern-ton v Saring County (3.0); Reductiv Combone (2.30); Stourbudge v Dudley Kingswinford (2.30); Wetsonams v Hentis FP (3.00); Edin-burgh Acads v Edinburgh Boddens (2.00); Lon-don Irish y Old Mikhilaris (3.00). Cancallact Bridgend v Moseler; Newcestie v Northem.

PREMIER LEAGUE: Guildford Flames v Med way Beers (8.0); Slough Jets v Swindon Ice-Lords (8.0); Tellord Tigers v Sothuli Blaze (8.0).

SPORTING DIGEST

American football
NFL San Francisco 24 Debot 14.
AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE
EASTERN DIVISION NBA: New York 82 Atlanta 76; Orlando 89 Cereland 84; Mannesota 107 Utah 96; Chrisgo 113 New Jersey 81; Houston 75 Mi-vesilee 81; San Argonio 79 Marra 90; Proera 109 Denwer 112 (orl; Portierd 84 Washing-ton 106; Sacramento 100 LA Clopers 88. Clacinneti 8 8 0 370 441

Houston 8 8 0 370 441

Baltimore 4 12 0 371 441

WESTERN DIVISION 13 3 0 391 275

Keness City 9 7 0 297 300

San Diego 8 8 0 310 376

Ozdand 7 9 0 340 293

Castle 7 9 0 317 376 NATIONAL FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

PACIFIC DIVISION Cinched playoff berth
 Clinched division title
 Clinched conference title Football

Tomorrow

Full guide to what's happening when and where in the next 12 months in the Independent Calendar of World Sport for 1997, produced in association with Pole Sport. There is also the opportunitv for readers to purchase a high-quality glossy colour version of the calendar. 🕖

More than half of the seats on the new Football League Board of Directors will be comested, it has been revealed. While the three places reserved for the First Division clubs were agreed last week, it was likely that there would be less agreement among the other two divisions. Only Crewe chairman John Bowler is sure of his place alongside loswich's Dawd Sheepshanks, lan Stott of Oldham and Crystal Palace chief Ron Noades, Sheepshanks is understood to be the First Division clubs' favoured candidate for the chairman-More than half of the seats on the new shout to be that make the fragment candidate for the charman-ship of the new board, which takes over from the present so-men body next month. Ballot papers are being sent out

Head Science 20 August 12 August 12

ice Hockey MHL Beaton 3 Chicago 3 (of); Montreel 0 Chicago 6; New Jersey O Buffato O (co); NY Is-Janders 3 Flonda 4 (of); Tampa Bay 1 Washington 3; Toronto 5 Pittsburgh 6; Pal-les 1 San Jose 2; Colorado 4 Calgary 2; Ana-tern 1 Phoena 2; Vancouver 0 Edmonton 7

TODAY'S

NUMBER

543

The Coventry City club appearance record, which goal-keeper Steve Ogrizovic is due to break in the home garne against Middlesbrough on Saturday. The present record was set 26 years ago by George Curtis.

Youthful Promise a better bet than older Man

It is probably just as well that a very good chance of becom-bookmakers have yet to hit ing the first horse to win the King upon the idea of introducing gift tokens at Christmas. While average cracker, particularly if they are unwrapped and used on the Boxing Day card at

Today's six-race card at the Sunbury track, with the King George VI Chase as its centrepiece, may not have attracted as many runners as usual because of the forecast good going, but it is no less demanding, and while every race holds its own fascination, care is required if punters are to emerge unscathed.

There will be those, for instance, for whom One Man, favourite for the King George VI Chase, will represent an adult version of Santa Claus, to he relied upon utterly to foot the bill for the annual debauch. With six days left to the New Year, however, it is time to practice a truly worthwhile resolution, which is to avoid odds-on favourites at all costs.

This is not to say that Gordon Richards's chaser does not have

KEMPTON

HYPERION'S

1.10: AARDWOLF beat more experienced norses over this trip at that he has the pace for this quicker course when previously win-ning over two miles. See More Business is the one to overcome.

1.40: ALBEMINE, who is suited by fast ground and a flat track, can defeat the progressive Chai-Yo.

2.15: If MR MULLIGAN can overcome the injury he suffered this week then he represents an alternative to One Man, who is perhaps overrated. The selection put up an

George twice in the same year, the weather having delayed last some might hail them as the ideal present for the punter, their uary. Yet at current odds of lifespan would rival that of the around 8-13 (he may well drift on-course), it is vital to ask whether he is really as far ahead swer must be that he is not. One Man's last three runs in-

clude two wins, but how much he has achieved in beating either Barton Bank or Monsieur Le Cure must be open to doubt. Sandwiched in between, meanwhile, was his dreadful performance when favourite for the Gold Cup at Cheltenham. In the final analysis, there is precious little rock-solid top-class form here on which to start risking the sort of sums necessary to

make a bet worthwhile. With eight runners declared, an each-way bet is a far more appealing alternative. Fears that the race would be without two of its stars were eased when Rough Quest and Mr Mulligan were both given the go ahead to run on Christmas Eve. Mr Mulligan's participation was con-

ruary, but has been let down by his

jumping on his last two starts. A re-

turn to a right-handed track may be beneficial. Conversely, Rough Quest

would be happier racing anti-clock-

2.45: POTTER'S BAY and Mister

Drum are closely matched but the

former may prefer the fast ground

Greg Wood tips a talented novice for victory in the King George VI Chase

firmed after he passed a fitness test while Rough Quest's trainof his rivals on the form book as that quote implies. The anground was suitable for this year's Grand National winner. Casey travelled from his base

at Dorking, Surrey on Christmas

RICHARD EDMONDSON **NAP: Aardwolf** (Kempton 1.10) NB: Chai-Yo (Kempton 1.40)

Eve to check that the going would not be too fast for the 10-year-old. "At the moment we are running," he said. "It's fast and it's not ideal but it is raceable and there is no jar."

Rough Quest is no longer a fair price at 7-2, since three miles on a flat track with fast going is unlikely to be a sufficient test. The same may be true of Nahthen Lad, while Couldnt Be sors aside. Better's name is an increasing

embarrassment and Barton Promise's precocity that he is Bank is always likely to make a desperate mistake at a vital

Two options remain. Trying Again proved that he gets today's trip when second to Belmont King at Chepstow three weeks ago, has a touch of class too, and is a very tempting 20-1 chance. It is STRONG PROMISE (nap 2.15), however, who can prevail today. Geoff Hubbard's runner

best hurdlers in Britain when a neck runner-up to Urubande in the Aintree Hurdle in April, but his magnificent physique had always held the prospect of better to come over fences. So it proved when, despite his youth and inexperience, he was beaten only narrowly by Challenger Du Luc in the Murphy's Gold Cup, and a subsequent victory at Ascot made it clear that it was not a fluke performance. One Man may well be the best of his age-group over fences, but a member of the next generation could now be ready to shove his somewhat lacklustre predeces-

younger than all bar one of the field for the Grade One Feltham Novices' Chase. His fellow five-year-old, though, is the one to beat, for while the likes of See More Business and Fine Thyne are undoubtedly useful prospects, the defeat by Aardwolf (next best 1.10) of Major Summit at Sandown last time should prove to be the best form on offer today. The novice hurdle too will be just as revealing, showed himself to be one of the and Nordance Prince (12.40), who has more speed than stamina, should find two miles around Kempton on fastish ground an ideal combination. Chai Yo (1.40) and Uhuru (3.15) will go well in the handicap hurdles.

The feature event elsewhere is the Rowland Meyrick Handicap Chase at Wetherby, in which The Grey Monk (2.15), runner-up to Coome Hill in the Hennessy, could find the Lo Stregone is his most significant opponent. Gordon Richards is almost overburdened with topclass grey chasers at present, and The Grey Monk, at least, should take one of the best prizes of It is a sign of Strong Christmas back to Cumbria.

Three meetings fall to freeze

Although the weather is not as severe as it was last year when all 10 meetings were lost on Boxing Day, Ayr, Newton Ab-bot and Wincanton all fell victim to the freeze yesterday and prospects for several other cards hinged on the frost stay-

ing away last night. Officials at Ayr walked the course yesterday morning and found it to be frozen. With the forecast for another sharp frost in Scotland last night they were forced to call the meeting off.

At Newton Abbot, the racecourse general manager, Pat Masterson, said: "The course was frozen at 12 noon today and in view of further frost being forecast we had no alternative but to abandon." They were slightly more op-

timistic at Wincanton, where officials gave the course until the afternoon to begin to thaw but found it to be still frozen at 3pm. Among the courses under threat, Hereford will hold an in-

spection at 7.30am today. John

be under scrutiny at the same But frustrated racegoers will be able to see some competition on the television as there are no

said: "We couldn't have raced to-

day but it is nice and sunny so

it depends on the weather

tonight." Huntingdon will also

problems anticipated for the day's most prestigious meeting at Kempton. The course re-ported a relatively mild night on Christmas Eve.



One Man, who faces a tough rival in Strong Promise

Photograph: Simon Wilkinson

MISTELD

All a language of the

منيك الامراج والمرازين

直接的 500 就,一直到程度的直转 🗫 🙀

THE RESERVE OF THE PROPERTY OF

And the second s

The same of the sa

A MANUAL OF ME

CHAPPER PROTECT

KEMPTON

HYPERION 12.40 Secret Spring 2.15 Mr Mulligan 1.10 Aardwolf 2.45 Potter's Bay 1.40 Albemine (nb)

Right-hand course. Practically flat. Run-in of 200yd.

Rouse is un A308 at Sunbury. (Bus link from Richmond Underground station.) Kempton Park railway station adjoins course. ADMISSION: Club \$25, Juniors (16 to 25-yearolds) \$16; Grandstand \$15; Silver Ring \$7. Accompanied children under-16 free. CAR

SIS ■ LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: D Nicholson — 17 winners from 50 run

GOING: Good.

ners gives a success ratio of 28,8% and a loss to a \$1 level stake of \$0.97; M Pipe — 12 wanners, 58 runsers, 20.7%, +\$13.13; N Henderson — 12 winners, 73 runsers, 16.4%, -\$4.40; N Twiston-Davies — 8 winners, 51 runners, 15.7%, -\$23.30. ■ LEADING JOCKEYS: J Osborne — 27 winners, 111 rides, 24.9%, +524.19; R Danwoody — 20 winners, 104 rides, 19.2%, -\$31.80; A Magaire — 17 wins 21.5%, -\$7.41; M A Pitzgerald — 17 winners, 90 rides, 18.9%, -\$1.80. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: NORE. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Solomon's Dancer (1.10) & One Man (2.15) have been sen (201) miles by G Richards from Greystoke, Cambris.

	_		
	[]	2.40	GOOD JOB NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 2m Penalty Value £7,263
	1	111111	KAELASH (USA) (40) (D) (Mack Fletcher) M Pice 5 11 10
1	2		DAMEGOLD (21) (D) (Circular Distributors Ltd) M Channon 4 11 5
1	а		DESERT GREEN (FR) (21) (BF) (Ms P Jubert R Hannon 7 11 5
- 1	4	0.246/0	PICHARIS FLITTER (385) (R V Wingle) D Esworth 8 11 5 Pholicy
	5		LENDRING SPIRET (Induna Racing Parinets Two) C Visit 4 11 5
-	Б	0	MANSUR (21) (Ed McGrath) N Henderson 4 11 5
- 1	7	P0	NIGHT FLARE (FR) (21) (Ms Fone Gordon) S Woodman 4 11 5
	8	3/33	NORDANCE PRINCE (28) (Pric Gynt) Mes Gay Kelleway 5 11 5
	9	40 to 00	PALLADRIM BOY (20) (Paladrum List (Builders Merchanist) Mrs J Retter 6 11 5 C Mande
	m	1	PROTON (21) (D) (Person War Raping R Alehust 6 11 5
	11		SAMMARTINO (K Abdullatr) D Nicholson 4 11 5
	12	2-12	SECRET SPRING (FR) (28) (D) (BF) (M K George) P Hedger 4 11 5M Richards
	13	004-52	MOOR HALL LADY (24) (R S Brookhouse) N Babbage 5 11 0
	l		- 13 declared -

FORM CUIDE SANMARTINO, the 1995 Ebor wotor, has had his intended hundling debut delayed three times by the weather and, although he will not find it easy with Kallash, Proton and Dene-

gold among his rivals, the son of Selse can still start his new career successfully. Sammartino, formerly trained by Barry Hills and now in Devid Nicholson's stable but still owned by Khalid Abdullah, is sure to know his new job and will not lack for fitness. Kalisah is underfeated of ser seven races - four bumpers (one last season) and three hurdle races - most recently reviving all to starn Herbert Lodge seven lengths at Cheltenham. The five-year-old, who represents Martin Pipe's stable in preference to two others, might not have finished improving yet and rates the chief threat. Proton, another former useful Fist racer, trounced Desert. Green (who want off favourity) new lengths when both made their debuts at Windsor and they meet on destitud terms. Directif securities at Windsor on only his second. they meet on identical terms. Denegold justified favouritism at Windsor on only his second outing this term and third in all and is another likely to get better. Leading Spirit, who makes

1.10 PERTEMPS RECRUITMENT FELTHAM NOVICE CHASE (CLASS A) (Grade 1) £35,000 3m Penalty Value £22,950

BETTING: 7-4-See More Business, 9-2 Aurubuit, 5-1 Relation Boy, 8-1 Sulamon's Dencer, 9-1 Business Boy, 10-1 Fine Taylor, 16-1 Djeddab

Paul Nicholls, who landed this in 1993 with See More Indians, should be on the mark again, this time with SEE MORE BUSINESS. Winner of both completed starts in point-to-points, the str-year-old won all three of his novice hundes last starson and went in first time up over fences when defeating live Windy eight lengths at Chepstow, where Buckhouse Boy (same terms) was 11 lengths further away last of three. The selection performed well when beet en a length by Dorinas Pried at Fairhouse – third-placed Executive Options was a distance back – and will take some beating here. Buckhouse Boy best Foodbroker Star 25 lengths at revenuly near prine but set when record in records in records State state at Unique, Aeronom has a 100 per cent record after two outings this term, defecting Amenico 19 lengths over two miles at Sandown and inching out Major Summit in an extended three-miler on the same track. He looks the right one for forecast backers. Solicenon's Dancer, who sports the One Man colours of John Hale, was the epitome of consistency over timber last term and has taken landly to the larger obstacles, winning his first two chases at Carlate and Newcastle and finishing a two-end-e-half-length second to the odds-on Sparly Gayle on a return to the latter course. This is a new trip for him but he should last it out on this easy track. Place Thome has banded three of his low chases a facet-heart with Rennich Not To at Tigme has landed three of his four chases (including a dead-heat with Berude Not To at Kempton) and was runner-up to Call Equiname at Worcester in the other but has more on his plate this time, as does Matchism Boy, who made a winning Senting bow at Newbury, though the last named is bound to improve.

[L40	NETWORK PERSONNEL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £10,000 2m Pensity Value £6,827
1	1005-30	THEN ENG TWICE (USA) (22) (D) (Ed McGalth) N Henderson 7 (1 10),
2	21-1121	CHINI-710 (13) (D) (Nick Viney) J Old 6 10 12 G Upton
3	523P-52	ALBENGRE AUSA; (10) (0) (Mrs. J Cecil) Mrs. J Cecil 7 10 10
4	2F21P-3	INTERBANGIC (27) (D) (The Will To Win Partnership) J Fox 6 10 0

211. YET AGAIN (14) (A P Griffin) Mass G Kellemay 4 10 0... P136/0 . Pyreshic Dance (21) (T W King) M Haynes 6 10 0 ... rangle Set 13th, Yet Again Set 10th, Pyranic Dance 7st 5th. BETTING: 7-4 Chai Yo, 3-1 Albemins, 4-1 Yet Again, 7-1 Intercoagle, 10-1 Tabiling Twice, 33-1 Pyroble

CHAI-YO is much improved this season and can make it four was out of five despite racing CHAL-TO is much improved this season and can make it four wins out of five despite racing off a 15th higher mark then when gaining his first soccess of the season at Haydook last month. Jim Oid's charge later won at Aistree and Chettenham, his only reverse being whan finding Misser Morose eight lengths too good at Newbury on his penultimate start when linermagic finished a length and threequarters admit in third and Thinding Twice was miles behind in ninth. Chal-Yo should again have the measure of that pair who meet him on 7th and 11th better tarms, respectively, Albemiae looks the main danger. Julie Cecifs numer had the third 19 lengths away when going under three parts of a length to Most Equal at Hurtington on only his second outing of the season, and Body to Improve. Yet Again, who has a proferred engagement at Wolverhampton, has been successful in the last two of his three state over timble both notice quarter of Technologies finishing expent in the selfer on

		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
	215	PERTEMPS KING GEORGE VI CHASE (CLASS A) (Grade 1) £100,000 3m Penalty Value £63,325	
1	4420-25	BARRON BANK (40) (CD) (Alex J Moule) D Nicholson 10 11 10	A Magaire
2	F3FF-20	COULDN'T BE BETTER (28) (D) (R A B Whistel C Brooks 9 11 10	G Bradley
3	11112-4	MR MIRINGAM (19) 50, 50F; (M. & G. Worzester) N. Chance 8 11. 10	A P McCoy
4	21121-6	NAME (EN LAD (S) (J Shaw) Mrs.) Pluman 7 11 10	.N W.Siemson
		ONE: MAN (54) (D) (J Haled) 6 Richards 8 11 10	
6	2F121-1	ROUGH QUEST (5) (CD) (ATA Wates) T Casey 10 11 10	M A Pitzgespid
7	121121	STROPG PROMISE (83) (G Hubbert) G Hubbert 5 11 10	K Caule

BETTRIC: 4-7 One Man, 4-1 Rough Quest, 6-1 Strong Promise, 10-1 Barton Bank, 16-1 Trying Again, 1996 (ran at Sandown, 6 Jani: One Man 8 11 10 R Dunwoody 11-4 (6 Richards) 11 am FORM GUIDE

8 1P11-12 TRYING AGAIN (15) (C) (N' H Done) D Gandollo 8 11 10...

There have been geveral dual winners of this event, which dates back to 1937, and ONE.

MAN looks possed to follow up last season's victory when the race was staged at Sandown.

Gordon Richards's gray won his fast two starts last season, at Ayr and Haydock and was completing a hat-bick when winning this event by 14 lengths from Monsieur Le Care. One Man falled to show his real form when favourine and a 34-length sight to imperial Call in the Gold Cap, chopping out quickly between the last two fences but looked as good as ever when stemming Bantons Bank, winner of this in 1993 and clear only to blunder and unsest at the last in 1994, was belief when reviewing the rest at the last.

The Care of the start of the care of the care of the care of the care. Care Matrices leaves Reventing Reventing the care of the start of the care of the care. terms. Bertons Bank, winner of this in 1993 and clear only to bitunder and unseat at the last in 1994, was behind when pulled up before two out last term. Grand National hero Reagh Quest, who took a maden hurdle at Folkestone despite being thought Realy to need the run, had Couldnit Bis Bettier 19 lengths behind in their when a four-length second in the Gold Cup but One Men should turn eround Cheltenham running with both. Rough Quest may provide most danger, though. Storing Provides, who has won four of his six chases – including the Prist Bank Gold Cup at Ascor a week after failing narrowly behind Chellenger Du Luc in the Murphy's Gold Cup at Cheltenham – tackets three miles for the first time. The six-peer-old should get the distance on this sharp course and, whilst he may not be good enough to cope with One Man and Rough Quest at levels at this stage of his career, can take, minor

homours, Neathern Lad, whose four victories in 1985-96 included the Sun Aliance Chase, finished well besten over hurdles at Bangor on his reappearance but will be sharper for the nun. Mr Mulligen, one of lest seeson's leading lights among the notice disappointed who fourth to Bermont King at Chepstow. But he will stip their now and, on 8th more two washes terms, can reverse the form with Trying Again (prefers soft going), who finished econd.

Z	245	NETWORK DESIGN WAY WARD LAD NOVICE CHASE (CLASS B) £15,000 2m 4f 110yds Pen Vai £10,309	C4			
1	1/23F11	GREENBACK (BEL) (17) (back Joseph) P Hobbs 5 11 7	TOTAL PARTY IN			
ž	11 1211	MRSTER DRUM (20) (D) (Malcolm Batchelor) M Wildrigon 7 11 7	R Denvioody			
3	121-111	POTTER'S BAY (14) (D) (Mrs.) E Potter) D Nicholson 7 11 7	A Magairo			
4	2F0-151	SURLINE FELLOW (22) (Lady Annabel Goldsmith) N Henderson 6 11 7	i A Filzgiorald			
-		= 4 declared =				
B	BETTENG: 5-4 Potter's Bay, 9-4 Mister Drum, 4-1 Greenback, 7-1 Sublime Fellow					
		FORM GLIDE				

Twice a hunties errorer in 1995-96. POTTER'S BAY is unbestien after three runs over fonces and is set to extend the sequence to four. David Nicholson's runner hasn't besten a great deal at Humingsion (twee) and Sandown, where he accounted for solitary that Triple Witch-ing by a length but there is better still to come from this seven-year-old and his turn of foot can see of Milister Druss and Greenback. Mister Drum has landed three of his four chascan see or masser verse and areamount. Asser truth has ended these in some six can es, finishing second to Unelly Kinglin at Huntingson in the other and, being a front-runner, will be well at home on this track. Greenback, who won eight hundle races in 1994-95, missed last season. He is on a frist-trick but will find this much tragher than when writing at Taunton and Follestone, as will stubling Fellow than when he scored at Hereford and Southwell – he was unclosed at Bangor in between.

•			
1 7 1	(3.15	PERTEMPS CRACK CLUB HANDICAP HUROLE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 3m 110yds Penelty Value £6,912
	1	2/12223	. MYTTON'S CROICE (28) (SF) (Gordon Mython) D Micholson 5 11, 10
	Ž	33-2124	LANSDOWNE (29) (D) (R F Dermeed) P Nicholis 8 11 7
•	3	11604	CASTLE COURAGEOUS (12) (C) (Lady Many Muralons) Lady Herries 9 11 7 Murphy
	4	/1FR-4	PENTSWOOD (67) (CD) (Peter Taplin) M Channon 8 11.1
,	5	1416-35	ULLIBLE (13) (D) (P) Morgan) C Morlock 8 10 11
	6	30-5312	Title (19) (C) (The Crack Cut) J Jenkins 6 10 8
	7	06P-515	CONTRACT BOY (10) (5 D Herrstock) Mrs J Planen 11 10 4 Welfamone
	8	056-613	NECK THE BEAK (19) (C) (Str Nicholas Wilson) J Upson 7 10 4
E	9	25045	ENTRIC COURT (404) IR S Brookhouse) N Beltrage 7 10 0
			- 9 declared -
B .	j.iir	inun nek	ht: 10st. Your handisap weight: Ealing Court 9st 11b.
3			Mytton's Choice, 4-1 Laundonne, 5-1 Tim, 6-1 Hick The Benk, 7-1 Castle Couragnous,
2	8-1	Ultura, Co	keepy Boy, 12-1 others
•			EDDM OFFICE

FORM CURDE

Despite top weight, MYTTON'S CHOICE, a consistent type, can gain a well deserved return to winning form after times seconds and a third since his successful responsemence at Chepstow in October. He was beaten only a length and a quarter and a length by Balanak and Karshi (winner since) at Warwick - Castle Courageous some way back in seventh - and should last out the hip which he tackles for the first time. Lamadowee has also been running well and won over stightly further at Newbury in October in between seconds to Imporial Virtiage (over fences) at Newton Abbot on his return and behind Gysart at Wincarston while he was fourth to General Tonic on a return to Chepstow tast time. Colorany Boy, unplaced to Top Javain at Newton Abbot last time, earlier got home by half a length from Time at Sandown but the second should reverse that running on 3lb better terms.

Selections MYTTON'S CHOICE FORM CUIDE

SEDGEFIELD

12.10 Erni 12.40 Tribune 1.10 Brighter Shade 1.40 Adib 2.10 Jendee 2.40 Full O'Praise 3.10

PRECAUTIONARY INSPECTION 7,30am GOING: Good to Soft. Course is that it installating course. Stablyd run in on chase course

Course is I'm SE of town near jury-tion of ASAD and A177. Bus

True from Stocklon station (Part of Durkam station (I'm), AD-

VISORED FURST TIME: Poculte Gualthe ((2.10) WINNERS IN THE LANT SEVEN DAYS: For Torrior (3.10) won at Cattern & on Thursday. LONG-DESTANCE EUNNERS: Cullin Caper (1.2 H) has been sent

12.10 STANLEY RACING NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV I) £2,500 3m 3f 110yds 10 0000 RAMO (127) S Retitived 10 11.12 ... G Lee (3)
2 753 72 BARER (45) (BP) Mr A Sumbark 7 10 12 ... J Supple
30 0054 BARISTORNER (27) E Boto 10 10 12 ... AF Ryun (5) B
2 753 72 CHARLANG (27) W Committed 6 10 12 ... AF Ryun (5) B
2 753 72 CHARLANG (27) W Committed 6 10 12 ... A Carbin
3 EBM (FR) (13) 1 Line 3 10 12 ... R McCarbin (7)
3 EBM (FR) (13) 1 Line 3 10 12 ... R McCarbin (7)
4 10 CARRES MATE (256) P Drants 6 10 12 ... M Postur
4 070-300 POCAME GAOTHE (25) W Storey 6 10 12 ... M Molonary V
10 270 00 WGODSTOCK LODGE (15) V Rompson 8 10 12 ... Mr M Thompson

- 10 declared -BETTERS: 5-2 Good Hand, 7-2 Erni, 5-1 Barastormer, Saher, Call Factor,

12.40 LIMON HALL-SIENNA STUD HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m 5f 110yds 921352 MANETTA (18) (CD) N25 M Revoley 7 10 7....

- 9 declared -Mortean weight: 1851. True hardings angelst: Guilin Caper 9st 7tt. World With-A Eng 93 40, 94 Fach 9at 7th. est 2019 740, Se 145195 130. BETTHE: 3-1 Manettin, 7-2 Tribune, 4-1 Sudden Spin, 9-2 Borton Heights, 6-1 Troubs, 7-1 Johnny's Turn, 14-1 Guilla Caper, 20-1 others

1.10 DURHAM INNS MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 5f

36-260F ARESTOCEMENT (24) Mrs L Marshall 7 11 10... POCA CLONROCKE LUCKY (8) J Wade 6 11 10..... .1679-U COOLRENY (10) V Trompson 7 11 10 Mr M Thompson
0799-0 DESPENATE DAYS (15) F Nath 7 11 10 Mr M Thompson 2 DRY HILL LAD (22) J Norton 5 11 10 W Pry 5F53 FAIR ALLY (7) M Soverchy 6 11 10 M Molerney

PERN LEADER Mrs & Swinbank 6 11 10. 430/PY MOST RICH (789) B Bison 8 11 10 0000-5 NOOSA SOUND (15) L Lungo 5 11 10...

- 13 deciseed -BETTING: 9-4 Brighter Shade, 4-1 Dry HIII Lad, 9-2 Safety Factor, 6-1 Fern Lander, 13-1 Most Hich, 16-1 Feir Ally, Royal Hand, 20-1 others

1.40 STANLEY RACING NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) (DIV II) £2,500 3m 3f 110 yds ODP31-0 DARY MORS (15) I H Johnson 6 11 0 ... G. Cash
15 LONGCROFT (124) (8F) 5 retrieved 4 11 0 ... G. Lan (3)
467-013 ADM (15) G M More 6 10 12 ... S Hawarth (7)
67000-6 BRSH SHZZ (15) Max 5 sentrarsh 4 10 12 ... He Cash Went (7)
67000-6 BRSH SHZZ (15) H Max 5 sentrarsh 4 10 12 ... W Fy
05-9500 RUBER (15) R Homson 9 10 12 ... MW Fy
05-9500 RUBER (15) R Homson 9 10 12 ... Mars P Robson
00050 HONGCRESH (CROSS (1,05) R ROTWER 7 10 7
... C McCommack (7)
9 Sectioned -

C McCormack (7)

- 9 declared
SETTING: 5-2 Longcroft, 11-4 Daloy Days, 7-2 Adib, 9-2 Novie Man, 12-1 Irish Suzz, 14-1 Deer Jean, 16-1 others

2.10 NORTH YORKSHIRE BORO BEST HANDI-CAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 3m 3f 545 PP \$800K PORT (B) D (ant; 9 10 1..... BETTING: 3-1 Davis Lad, 4-1 Kings Semion, 5-1 Choisty, 6-1 Son of Iris, Marchivood, Jendee, 10-2 others

2.40 RENT ROLL CUP HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 110 yds

DECEMPS CHALL WIND (345) IN Bycool 7 10 13 _______ Supple 6 4330-50 SUPPS SANDY (25) (0) F Water 9 10 9 _____ K Johnson — 6 declared — 5 House George, 5-2 Cover Point, 4-1 Foll (7 Probe, 9-2 Val De Roma, 10-1 Chill Wind, 18-1 Super Sandy

3.10 HALLGARTH MANOR HOTEL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 2m 1f HINTREDUTE HYPERION

12.30 Haunting Music 1.00 Boyfriend 1.30 Call Me River 2.00 KORBELL (nap) 2.30 Dante's View 3.00 Wisley Warrior INSPECTION 7.30AM

OING: Chase course - Good; Burdles - Good to Soft. Right-hand, level course, Rom-in 200 vois. acerourse is at junction of Al and A604. Huntingdon railwa station (service from London, King's Cross) is one mile away. AD-MUSSION: Members \$1.2; Tanemalls \$8; Course \$4, New Tattersalls BLINEERED FIRST TIME: Kamikane (12.70), Wisley Wonder

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None. LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS; Tribune (1.00) has been sent 170 miles by C Thornton from Middleham, North Yorkshire; Toposwyer (1.00) & My Buster (3.00) sent 179 miles by Miss S Half from Cov-

12.30 CHRISTMAS TIDE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2m 4f 11.0yds

— 9 stackered — D Bidgester B — 9 stackered — BETTIME: 5-2 Migrar Drown, 7-2 Wigder Wonder, 6-1 The Stey Pades, 7-1 Hamilton Marie, 8-1 Flippence, Jac Del Prince, 9-1 Safeglide, 10-1 Remilians, 25-1 Jolly Boot

1.00 CHRISTMAS BOX HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,650 added 2m 5f 110yds

- 10 declared - 4 thrimms weight 10st. From hardisap relight Night Fancy 9st Sb. BETTING: 3-1 Tribune, 7-2 First Crisck, 5-1 Topszeryer, Maneree, 6-1 Roysledd, 10-1 Cambo, 12-1 others

1.30 BEDFORD LODGE HOTEL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3m CHASE (CLASS E) £4,200 added 3m
APLF34: YEDMAN WARRIOR [13] R Rove 9 11 10 _____ D 9 Sulfivor
U1225: CANTORS TRUTER (93) Ms. I Pitron 9 11 9 ____ W Marston
0130* DAMBER THE SRAME (904 (7) C Books 6 11 8. D Sallaghar
414-214 SOLO GENT (14) (20) A Jones 7 11 3 _____ D Bridgestor
4-26433 HOUGHTON (22) Werks 10 11 2 _____ DR Books 6 10 12 _____ P Hole
4-26433 HOUGHTON (22) Werks 10 11 10 12 _____ P Hole
4-26521 SUSAR HILL [16] (20) / GROW 6 10 12 _____ P Hole
FOLS-12 EASTERN RIVER (24) (97) / Fonsior 10 10 7 ____ A Thomston

In the second of 2.00 FESTIVE SPIRIT NATIONAL HUNT' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 2f

1 F32-212 FLYING GUNNER (34) (8F) D Nicholson S 11 5 ... R Manager (3)
010-21 SALMON BREEZE (33) N Handerson 5 11 5 ___ JR Kamangh
30-6 SANK AVENUE (18) May Primar 5 10 12 ____ w planston
60 BURFORDS FOR SCRAP (24) R Distin 4 10 12 ____ 11 4200-03 PAWLOWA (22) R Rome 6 10 7 ____ — 11 declared —
BETTING: 5-2 Karbell, 3-1 Flying Gamer, 7-2 Salmon Breeze, 8-1 Ster marcilo, 12-1 Bank Avenue, 16-1 Padove, Lady High Sheeld, 20-1 other

2.30 BOXING DAY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,600 added 2m 110yds 006F4F5 MONOAY CLUB (28) (0) J Tuck 12 11 11 45-P42 CORRANDER (3) (0) J Stryfo-Osbourne 12 11 11 3 621243 CRAFTY CHAPLAIN (10) (D) 0 McCard 10 11 8...

6 /43-3 DANCES VIEW (USA) (8) P Hodger 8 11.2 _____ D 0'9u - 6 declared --6 declared -BEITHG: 7-4 Scorestnert, 5-2 Danks's View, 7-2 Commiler, 5-1 Crafty Chepiain, 14-1 Hooday Clain, 20-1 Starend John 3.00 MISTLETOE STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £1,500

added 2m 110yds

41- DUBLIN FREDDY (315) (D) Miss Venetia Williams 5 11 11 SKYCAB J Galand 4 11 4 ARTIC MENDOW A Jesson 5 10 13... HOT 'N SAUCY A lores 4 to 13_ W Mission

UCHRING PERK (129) Mes C Groc 4 10 13 ___ I Lawrence

MASGE STRUIT (9) Mes A long 4 10 13 ___ I Lawrence

O SWEET MOUNT (12) N Telston-Dawles 4 10 13 ___

KING GEORGE VI CHASE - 10-YEAR-TALE 161 251 10 45 94 101 141 92 161 18 ortest-jeliood winner: Desert Orchel 1-2 (1908)

Agents prised Genoter-Hageney 25-1 (1992)

Yop judgey: R Dunsoody - Desen Dichic (1980 & 1990); Dichien Carlo

Alderbrook waits for the rain

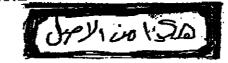
Kempton may be robbed of a former Champion Hurdler from its Christmas meeting with Alderbrook unlikely to make his reappearance tomorrow unless the ground eases. It raises the prospect of Alderbrook, champion in 1995, travelling to Leopardstown on 19 January to underline his Cheltenham credentials. His trainer, Kim Bailey will walk the course before making a decision but his assistant Alex Hales said: "He's 100 percent and we're totally happy with him but he won't run if the ground is any quicker than soft.

"If he doesn't run there he could go straight to the Irish Champion Hurdle but Kim and owner Ernie Pick will discuss that if he doesn't run on Friday." Jason Titley has landed the

plum spare ride on Jodami in the Rowland Meyrick Handicap Chase at Wetherby today. The Irishman's agent Graeme James approached trainer Peter Beaumont when it became clear other jockeys could not commit themselves to being at Wetherby to take the place of currently sidelined Mark Dwyer on the 1993 Gold Cup winner.

	01/0: -	
9	OUBLE	
ENGA	GEMEN	ITS
	_	
The following house They will run at the only if the first prof	Coccasi prefer	once meeting
HORSE Chave line	1stpof	2nd prof
1	1230 M Ras 2.45 Web	1.15 Web
Custoles Challenge Durbace HE		2.00 Wolv
Duritmage	3.05 M Res 3.10 Sede	1,05 Hare 1,36 M Res
Outentheyes	3.35 M Res	3/00 Web
Girmah	3.10 Seds	2.36 M Res
Hostico	130 Hart	200 Web
Kastian	1230 Hert	1.20 Wal-
Hage Shilley	1.00 Web	. 3.05 Here
Kings Swences	2.10 Sede	236 M Res
Kabel	2.00 Hunt	2.30 Web
SEAR DOWN	245 Kerro	12.30 Hunt
Neous Sound	2.35 M See	1.10 Sede
Northern Star	3.05 M Res	2,00 Hard
Pearl's Choice	2.00 Now!	2.35 M Res
Ruftin.	1.45 Week	136 N Res
Strangthi Ace	3.05 M Res	3.00 Web
Sté Path	12.40 Sedg	3.45 Weth
Smiley Face	235 Here	3.20 Wes
Sudden Spin	. 135 M Pag	12.40 Sedg
The Sty Pade	120 Web	12.30 Hunt
Kortit West	3.15 Web	2,30 Web
Telpuna	12.40 Sody	1,00 Heat
Michaels Cornet	1.00 Heat	1.35 M Res
Yet Again	3.30 Web	140 Kerry





Call kept under wraps

DAMIEN LYNCH

Ireland will have to wait to see if Imperial Call has retained his old magic as the Gold Cup winner was yesterday pulled out of Saturday's Ericsson Chase at Leopardstown.

The seven-year-old's trainer, Fergie Sutherland, said his stahis seasonal debut at Punchestown earlier this month.

"He suffered some bad bruises at Punchestown. The superficial injuries have cleared up but he is still bruised," Suther-

Imperial Call, a warm favourite to retain the Gold Cup in March, is now expected to

Love 3.35 Swan Street

HEREFORD

HYPERION

1.05 Tristram's Image 1.35 Dragonmist 2.05 Speedwell Prince 2.35 The Brewer 3.05 Ardent

INSPECTION 7.36AM

GOENG: Good.

Exight-hand course with 300yd run-bt.

Course is N of city on AAS. Hereford station Im. ADMISSION:
Chib S12. Tenersulis 28; Course enciosure \$5. CAR PARK: Free.
BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Purbeck Casaller (2.05), Nordic
Breeze (3.35); Country Lover (visor, 1.06), High Daniels (visor, 2.05).

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Captain Stockford (2.05) won at Hereford on Friday. (JONG-DISTANCE KUNNERS: Quiet Mistress (1.25) has been sea. (91 miles by W Bethell from Arnold, Humberside.

6 STORMTFARMFATHER (36) N Herdeson 4 IV II: 23 TRISTRANT'S BMAGE (26) (8F) N Herdeson 5 20 12....

16 2 SLEPPERY For (24) W G M Yuner 4 10 7 Jones (7)

16 2 SLEPPERY For (24) W G M Yuner 4 10 7 J Power (7)

16 BETTINE 7-2 Country Lower, 6-1 Lowe The Blace, Tristran's heage, 7-1 Meistock Megge, 8-1 Fice Str, 9-1 Denham Hill, 10-1 others

(CLASS G) £3,000 added 3m 2f

(CLASS 6) £3,000 added 3m 2f
2320F0 WhiteBONNET (31) C Egron 6 12 0 ... C Lievellyn 8
098-622 QUET MESTRESS (7) W Bernet 6 11 11.Mr R Thomson (6) 8
4340-4 RHATR (CNR) (8) M Fpc 5 11.8 Which Y
522-053 STRUEE A POSE [10) 8 Lievellyn 6 11 6 Mr J L Lievellyn
532231 DRAGONNEST (25) D Buchel 6 11 2 J J Berchell H
4/200 CHELLY LAD (282) R Aucies 5 11,1 E Bershand (2)
60060 MY SHERMADONN (8) (87) H Doer 5 10 12 ... Jacqui OHO
6-50350 AMVESTRUCK (17) B Presos 6 10 1 G Hogan (3) B
GEPTPP STRUTTON RIVER (244) H Doer 6 10 0 J. Harvey
9 deciand - 9 deciand-

- 9 declared -Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weight: Statton Fiyer 9st 13lb. BETTMS: 7-4 Dragowolst, 4-1 Quiet Michaes, 9-2 Khatiz, 6-1 Weltabe

8-1 Strike-A-Pose, 10-1 My Shemendosh, Chilly Lad, 16-1 others 2.05 PLIM PUDDING NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m

LINGFEED

HYPERION

vescence 2.20 Passage Creeping 2.50 Bon Secret 3.20 Wottashambles

GOING: Standard.

STALLS: Inside, except one mile (outside).

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 51 & 61.

I Left-band, situap course (Equitack surface).

If Course is south-case of town on B2028. Lingfield station (served by London Victoria) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Members 513, Tattersells SS. GAR PARK: Club 23; remainder free.

BLINKERED FIRST TRIE: Oaken Wood (1.20); Fancy Decides the London 2 200. Cod. Red (cites 2 20).

sign (visor, 2.20), Code Red (visor, 3.20). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DATS: Heavenly Miss (1.20)

winness in Pine Lasy Seven Davis Heaveny amas (1-31) won at lingled on Pidsy.

LONG-DISTANCE EUNNERS: Loveyounditions (2.50) has been sent 242 miles by N Tribler from Langton, North Yorkshire; The Wyandotte Inn (1.20) & Eastleigh (2.50) sen 158 miles by R Hollinshead from Upper Longdon, Staffortishire.

12.50 EPIPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AW)

050516 CEDEZ LE PASSAGE (FR) (12) K Curningham-Brown 5 9 9.

1.20 MARY & JOSEPH NURSERY HANDICAP (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2YO 6f (AW)

Minimum weight: 7st 10th. True handlarp weight: Mystery 7st 10th.
BETTING: 7-4 The Wyandloth Isa, 9-4 Heavenly Miss, 7-2 Royal Orchid,
10-1 Countless Times, 12-1 Mystery, Oslon Wood, 14-1 Island Prices

1.50 MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS E) £4,200 added 270 7f (AM)

(2)(2)42 EFFERYESCENCE (7) R Hannon 9 0 ______ Demo 07Hell 4 40003 HEVER GOLF MOVER (5) T J Haughton 8 9 _____ D Holland 1

400-232 BAROSSA VALLEY (13) P Butler 5 9 5 ____ D Sames 630003 SLEP JMG (15) R Homen 3 9 0 _____ Dane 506060 HATTA SUNSHENE (USA) (30) (CD) A Moore 6 8 9 ____

____D J Kompangis (5) ____E Hastrand (3)

A COLOR

with the latter of

1 X 2 4 KE

ڪئيا ∶و. •

4-35ª S

MINCE PIE SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE

Leopardstown in February.
The Christmas meeting will be headlined instead by Dano-

ii, who will be out today to repair some of the damage done to his reputation by a fall at Fairyhouse at the start of the month. Tom Foley, Danoli's trainer, is confident that he has ble star had not recovered fully from a fall at the final fence mind and he will need to be if when he looked set to win on his seasonal debut at Pun
Jeffell, The Carrig Rua and England's Land Afar in the Denny Gold Medal Chase.

"As far as I am concerned the most important thing is that Danoli jumps well If we get beaten, even beaten a long

have his pre-Cheltenham run in the Hennessy Gold Cup at Leopardstown in February.

into him since he fell at Fairy-house and he jumped really well when we took him to Gowran Park on Friday. He's really well in himself."

> Another of Ireland's Cheltenham heroes, Klairon Davis. faces 11 rivals in the McCain Handicap Chase tomorrow. The winner of the Queen Mother Champion Chase will have most to fear from the highly-rat-

ed Merry Gale. On Saturday, in Imperial Call's absence, Dorans Pride could emerge as a serious challenger for the Gold Cup. The former champion stayers' hurwhen beating Paul Nicholls' See More Business to win the way, and he jumps well I'll be happy enough." Foley said. "We've got plenty of schooling was a faller.

2.35 BLANDFORD BETTING NOVICE HANDICAP

66630-F NAGARA SOCIND (66) B Proces 5 11 11......Mr Thornton (0FPS) SNOWSHALL SHAKER (1,006) N Twiston-Cause 7 11 9.....

604-56 SERIES JANUE (25) PRESTURE 5 11 7.

3.35 HUGHES CATERERS HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £4,500 added 2m 3f 110yds

ETTRICE 7-2 Allow, 4-1 Recussions, 5-1 blordic Brouze, 8-1 Sunn Street, 7-1 Zesti, 8-1 Flour De Tal, 12-1 others

2.20 SANTA CLAUS MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,100 added 1m (AW)

2.50 EPIPHANY CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F)
(DIV II) £3,450 added 1m 2f (AW)

- 10 declared -BETTRIC: 5-4 Box Secret, 9-4 Walldid Beach, 7-1 Loveycomillicat, 10-1 Efficacious, Mediate, 12-1 Uord, 16-1 others

3.20 REINDEER HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,450 added 2m(AW)

640165 GUEST ALLIANCE (15) (CD) A Moore 4 10 Q. Candy Morris 230631. WOTTASHAMBLES (15) (CD) L Mortague Hall 5 9 2

Thomas Cook

000-003 ROYAL CARLTON (12) G L Moore 4 9 0 ...

0-05066 FANCY DESIGN (37) P Marchell 3 8 8...

1 Hover Golf Engle, 10-1 Georgie Boy, 14-1 Fancy De

05-500 DRAGON GREEN (12) J Calman 5-8
0030 TOPUP (86) J Hale 3-8 6
600000 JUSTIMANUS (7) J Bridger 4-8-5
000404 MEDIVIDE (13) CF A Hode 4-8-5
6040500 UND (114) P D MAR 3-8 1
006305 EFFICACIOUS (8) A More 3-7 11

CODE RED (23) W Mur 3 9 0.

HURDLE (CLASS E) £3.500 added 2m 1f

HYPERION 1.00 The Mine Captain 1.30 Novan 2.00 Wee River 2.30 Lance Armstrong 3.00 Furletto 3.30 Out On A Promise

GOTNG: Good to Soft:

II Left-hand course.

If Course is north of town on A449, Wolverhampton station, Im. ADMISSION: Cath 515; Tattersalls 55 (OAP members of Dis-mond Clob 54); Viewing Restratent cold out, CAR PARE: Free. MINIMERED FIRST TRUE: Fenian Court (3.00), Young Bensou (visored, 3.00). ERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DESTANCE EURNERS: Ballyline (1,00) sent 252 miles by W Kemp from Dans, Borders.

1.00 JUMPING COURSE NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f 110yds
1 02211-3 THE MINE CAPTAIN (249 (0) 0 Sheward 9 11 10
2 FXXS4U HOLY WANDFREE (USA) CB 7 George 7 11 B Female
3 0480;-11 MANNEYS CHOICE (17) R Ainer 6 11 7 P Healing (5)
4 20122F BALINE (80) W Yerrp 5 11 0
5 15332 WELLE MAKES (#) (D) R Philips 5 10 9
6 65254P 1000ETS \$MILLING (106A) (20) H Oliver 9 10 5lecopd Other
7 OSP43P HANGOVER (20) R Late 10 10 1
8 406503 SKMMORE (7) W Chy 10 10 0
9 40-0245 TODAL ASSET (18) A Footes 8 10 0
10 243400 STAGRAN (15) Picking 7 10 0

um weight 10st. True handkop weights: Total Asset 9st 12th, Sakbah

2	m, 8-1 h	, manusy's Cancel, 11-4 for more capture, 6-1 Byline, Wille Mohelt, 18-1 Hangaver, 14-1 oth	1. Labol 14400
C	1.30	PLYVINE CATERING NOVICE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 3m :	CHASE 1f
1 2 3	132480	PATHER SIN' (12) O Shewood 5 11 6 GEORGE ASHFORD (6) P Johnson 6 11 5 NOOM (17) R Paher 6 11 5	Ji Sharati
4	11/040- 8/5/5-2F	KAMMAZE (200) K Bolley S 11 0	A Thomas R Fernand
5		WRIDE WONDER (20) M Bracklock 6 11 0	P Herity

SOPO-0 MASKED MARKEN (JA) P Rodord 5 10 13 ______ 5 Parts -- E declared --

	IETTMO: 6-4 Pather Sig, 9-4 Noyen, 5-1 The Siry Padra, 6-1 Kaedioza, 1-1 George Ashlord, 12-1 Wisse Wonder, 20-1 others			
	2.00	HARRY BROWN MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £20,000 added 2m		
ı	€10U-2	CLAY COUNTY (NO. (D) M Harmond 11 12 0		
2	1/3PP-43	SOUND REVENUE (12) [D] C Books 8 11 8		
3	115-122	CALLISCE BAY (130 60) O Sherwood 7 11 7		
ı	115224	TIME WONT WAIT (232) (D) R Philips 7 11 6		
		Ralles		
5	4-43312	THUMBS UP (24) (D) G McCourt 10 10 11		
5		CUMBERNA CHALLENGE (15) (D) T Embely 7 10 11		
•				

-9 ded Alinkum wage: 10s. Trustandag weigns Hougeon Set Sh. Vegglo Set 11h. BETENG: 5-2 Combrien Chellengh, 3-1 College Bay, 4-1 Trumbs Up, 6-1 Clay County, 7-1 Squad Reveille, 8-1 Wes River, 12-1 others 2.30 HAGUE FASTEMERS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 3m 1f 00-2213 ANDROIC WIND (25) M Harmond 6 11 3 R Garding

GARLANDHOYES Mes K George 4 10 7 ... — 14 declared — NR: 11-4 Furlatio, 6-1 To Arms, Last Rounday, 8-1 met, Might Dout, Shangai Arm, 13-1 others

[3.30	BOKING DAY HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £6,000 added 2m
1	231144	YURRALEE (USA) (29) (D) M Pge 4 11 13
2	020-211	STASH THE CASH (17) (D) M Hammond 5 11 9 R Gardly
3		YET AGAR! (1/4) Mas Gay Rate asy 4 11 7
4		WWONING AROM (103) (3) P Michael 10 11 7
5	21-4113	TANKSKEIDE (#42) (24) (0) C Marri 5 11 2
5		OUT ON A PROMISE (13) (D) N Wader 4 10 13 R Parrent
7	41/12-110	JEMBAA PUDDLEDUCK (LE) (D) A Streeter 5 10 8 T Eley
_	407 C40	

ODA WEARHER WISE (33) W Turner 4 20 12...... 4-405 MAZING MINICLE (II) Mrs R Handwayn 4 50 7... - 19 declared -SETTING: 9-4 Kochell, 11-4 Lance Armstrong, 5-1 Pressie, 6-1 Aug. Wind, 8-1 Torch Vert, 10-1 Maring Miracle, 12-1 others 3.00 DUNSTALL RIMPING AGAIN SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) £3,000 added 2m 250-27 POREITO (8) (87) M Hammond 5 11.3 R Carriby 5-5970 AL RELAL (14) J Jordon 4 10 12 R Format V 00-3700 POLLOW DE CALL (25) D McCarr 6 10 12 P Montey (3) 44-7 S. THASTENERE (16) Mos Gay February 4 10 12 C27 SEMANN ANN BISIN, RC29 J Smyth-Ostourne 5 10 12. 4 TE AND (14) M Por 4 10 12 J G 0-04 TEE TEE TOO (27) A CHORD 4 10 12 J G 0-050 YOUNG BERSON (24) T Wall 4 10 12 J M Biory 65U535 PERSON COURT (US) (89) Mins J Bover 5 10 7

	3.30	D) £6,000 added 2m
1		YUROMEE (USA) (29) (D) M Por 4 11 13
2	020-211	STASH THE CASH (17) (D) M Hammond 5 11 9 R Gentley
3		YET AGAIN (1/4) Lines Gay Kelleren; 4 21 7
4		Westman Arion (103) (5) P Medial 10 11 7
5	21-4113	TANKSKENDE (KZ) (26) (D) C Marri 5 11 2 Religion.
ŝ	3431	OUT ON A PROMISE (13) (D) N Value 4 10 13R Parrant
7		JEMBNA PUDDLEDUCK (1.6) (D) A Streeter 5 10 8
8	636-210	SUPPRESECT (28) (D) (BF) W Mor 5 10 0 A Belon (5)
a		STAFFTING MOON (27) F lowers & 100

SETTING: 5-2 Yet Again, 7-2 Stanh The Costs, Yubrales, 5-1 Ran, 8-1 Out On A Promise, 10-1 Shifting Moon, 14-1 others

- 13 declared -

2.35 BRUCE AND JOE CARR NOVICE H'CAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3m 1f

3.05 SANDILANDS HOLIDAYS MAIDEN HÜRDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 3f 110yds

RICETTE COUNTY) J O'Nell 5 11 5...

PP/34- LORD VICK (294) Miss A Embaloos 7 10 0 ... 424623 RECORD LOVER (17) M Chepmen 6 10 0 W World

- 9 dec

12.30 Chorus Line 1.00 Oakbury 1.35 Rosencrantz 2.05 ky House 2.35 Mister Trick 3.05 Dennam Hill 3.35 Brambles Way

PRECAUTIONARY INSPECTION 8.30AM

GOING: Good, Good to Soft on Chase course in straight. Bigis-band, sharp, melulating chreuk. Run-in of one finiong.
Course is east of town on A631. Market Ruem station (Libecoin - Grimsby line) 1m. ADMISSSON: Chib £12; Tuttersalis 55 (AbPs who are members of course's Jubilee Club 54); Silver Ring 55 (Jubilee Club OAPs 52.50). CAR PARK: picnic areas £2, rest

WINNESS IN LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS: Trend The Boards (1.00),
Out Earling (1.35) & Bauntown Bill (2.05) have been sent 250
miles by H Pipe from Ficholashayne, Devon.

12.30 EBF NOVICE CHASE QUALIFIER (CLASS D) £5,500 added mares 2m 1f 110yds

P PREMITIVE PERMY (90) Mrs D Hains 5 10 12 .. ETTNIC 46 Heuristis Howard, 41 Coons Line, 51 Call No Black, 81

٤	10 Hets y, 25	-1 Printing Pully
ſ	1.00	J. AND G. COOK SELLING H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,100 added 2m 1f 110ydd
1		MINSTER'S MADAM (12) (D) J Neille 5 12 0) A McCarthy !
		TREAD THE BOARDS (19) (BF) 14 Pion 5 11 10 8 Moore (7
3		SEA GOD (61) N. Crepmen 5 11.8
		DUGGRT STRAND (306) O Bernan 5 11 2 M Brunne
5	. 1	TOUR STORE LADY #126 Wherms 4 11 1 P Marie

06300-2 WEATHER ALERT (20) (CD) K Morgan 5 11 0 A \$ Smith 023-049 SHURMOOR (7) May 1 Sold 4 10 13 OSCIPO-P RESEMBLA MILE (17) DJ M Chapmen 5 10 11 Beam Beary (7) 5U-6403 OAUSERRY (13) Miss L Schiell 4 10 7 _______ Dennik Byrne OO-5 BOLD TOP (13) B Actional 4 10 6 ______ B Greatine (7) Y

Minkuum meksig: 10st, Tine handicap weight: Woodkeds Energy Set 30. BETTING: 4-1. Milester's Marker, 9-2 See God, 5-1 Trend The Boards, Tool-

•	1.35	ROSELAND GROUP HANDICAP HURI (CLASS D) £6,500 added 2m 3f 110) J
1	0662/	JUNIOLE KNOWY (1,333) K Morgan 10 12 0 A MoC	
2	112411	OUT RUNGONG (FR) (14) (D) M Pipe 411 12 B Moo	10
3	1130-5	GLANNERS (16) K. Morgan 5 11 10A S 4	
4	2333-02	KIPPANOUR (USA) (12) C March 4 11 6 Magne	Ø
5	41-3232	LORD MCMURROUGH (LD), (D) J North 6 11 4 M Bri	
6	01-112	ROSENCRUMEZ (28) (3F) Mas V Williams 4 11 2 P 1	ı.
7	2022/08	TICAL BEACE NM 1 Portagin 9 11 0 W	•

15 20504-0 TRESTARTS COMET (2005) (C) J L Hams, 9 10 0 ... Cay Lanks (S) - 15 declared -

(MI S COTTON 354 24. BETTING: 11-4 Out Racking, 4-1 Nippunour, 6-1 Researchatz, 10-1 Rai-Rsso, Dani Image, 12-1 Lord McNiurrough, Smidlen Spin, 24-1 others itsa, Duni Intege, 12-1 Lord Mel

2.05 LINCOLNSHIRE NATIONAL HTCAP CHASE (CLASS C) £15,000 added 4m 1f 3140-29 UBU VAL (FR) (15) (BF) W Bethell 10 11 7...... A S Santa 011F-51 SEVENTON

GOING: Good to Soft.

Left-hand oval circuit. Run-in of 200yde slightly uphill.

Left-hand oval circuit. Run-in of 200yde slightly uphill.

and A1. ADMISSION: Cath \$12 (accompanied under-16s free);

Takersalls \$7; Course \$2 (cars, including up to 4 adults \$6). CAR

SCHMERIED FIRST THEIR FOOD.
WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.
ONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Torch Vert (3.15) has been sent.
98 miles by N Walker from Kingston Liste, Oxfordshire.

12.45 CHRISTMAS NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m

= 7 declared =

BETTING: 7-4 Dann Point, 4-1 Advance East, 5-1 Bollin Frank, 6-1 Nordic Prince, 7-1, Samunid, 8-1 Southern Cross, 16-1 Mensiell

15 ADVANCE EAST (12) (0) M Dods 4 11 4.

3.15 Lifebuoy

PARK: Proc.

- 1.4 sectored -HEJTENC: 6-4 Brambies Way, 9-2 Alb Cheenshibe, 6-1 Game Drive, 8-1 Gleansly, Austin Alice, Post Master, 14-1 Flux Gold, 16-1 others

12.45 Samanid 1.15 Golden Helio 1.45 Celes-tial Choir 2.15 The Grey Monk 2.45 Easthorpe

2.15 ROWLAND MEYRICK HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £25,000 added 3m 1f

- 6 decision -BETTERS: 7-4 The Grey Moret, 7-2 Call R A Day, 4-1 Jodansi, 5-1 to Stre-gone, 8-1 Auto Anton, 10-1 Scotton Banks

2.45 SUPERMASTER HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £10,000 added 2m 4f 110yds 128-204 EASTHORPE (14) Mars H Knight 8 11 10.....

-4 declared -BETTRIC: 6-4 Eastby Johnt, 7-4 Cambrian Challenge, 4-1 Eastborpe, 6-1.

3.15 BOXING DAY NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,750 added 2m 4f 110yds 441-422 THE CAFTANYS WISH (10) D Nicholson 5 12 0 R Johnson

PO2- TORCH VERT (201) N Waiter 4 10 12 44136-6 PILANGTON (19) J.H.Juhrson 8 30 8 000-444 SBLY MONEY (44) TESSISTY 5 10 7 03625-6 BEAU MATELOT (75) Mes M Militagen 4 10 5..... M Newton (7) 0064-73 DONT FORSET CURTIS (19) G M Noore 4 10 4 N Hannity (7) ADARD-OC SIG PATH (IS N Brond 7 10 0 ... QOC-OO THE OTHER MAN (19) Miss I Siddel 6 10 0...

Minimum weight: 10st. True handitoo vojetes: Reflex Hammar 9st 12th, Hot The Court of the C

Clubs ready for a new showdown

Rugby Union CHRIS HEWETT

England's senior clubs are digging in for yet another round of trench warfare with their governing body, this time over the Rugby Football Union's decision to change the promotion and relegation rules between the top two divisions of the Courage League. The fact that a final accord between the two sides on

the main political issues arising

from professionalism is now at

an advanced stage of legal re-

finement makes the latest out-

break of hostilities doubly ironic. All 12 current first division clubs and a number of their colleagues in Courage League Two are objecting forcibly to last weekend's surprise RFU move to a four-down, two-up arrangement - the second season in succession that the goalposts have been shifted midway through a campaign. The original plan, also designed with a 10-team top flight in mind, had been based on a three-down, one-up system

complete with play-offs. With two of English rugby's traditional powers, Bristol and Gloucester, now in unexpected strife, the first division clubs are ing for the 12-team top flight to be maintained - a means of restricting relegation to the bottom two in the table rather than the bottom third. "We've written to Twickenham to that effect and we're serious about it," said David Tyler, the Bristol general manager, "The decision taken by the competitions' sub-committee of the RFU at the end of last week

for principles here; the RFU are preaching reconciliation and togetherness on the one hand while on the other, they are mak-ing moves like this without the slightest attempt at consultation

with the very clubs affected." The RFU have been lobbied by some of the richer second division clubs, notably Richmond, for two guaranteed promotion places. They are unlikely to want to switch back again - the need to save face was a contributing factor in prolonging this year's conflict over financial manage-ment and control of broadcasting rights - but the timing of last weekend's announcement has infuriated the clubs every bit as much as the content.

As usual in the brave new world of professional rugby, the issues under dehate get more complex at every turn. Lurking beneath the row over relegation is the Welsh lobby, which wants to see a dramatic expansion of continental competition next season. Clubs like Cardiff are keen to play the Heineken European Cup on a home-andaway basis, a move that would commit the most successful sides to between 16-20 matches.

"In my opinion, the European competitions are just about right as they are," said Tyler. "We could expand them slightly and still maintain a 12-team domestic league, but any move to double the amount of matches would clearly be incompatible." Moseley, of the second division, look like escaping punishment for playing an unregistered player, Andy Freke, in last month's defeat at Bedford. The League organisers have said came out of the blue. It was a they do not intend punishing bombshell. We're standing up them for a genuine mistake.

Gibbs given chance to emerge again

Andrew Gibbs was handed the 10 British-based players in their chance on Christmas Eve to 30-strong party for their four launch his international come-match tour of Wales. back when he was picked at blindside flanker for Emerging Wales against the USA Eagles

next Wednesday. Gibbs returned from the summer tour to Australia as the cruit. No 8 Rob Lumkong, is first choice No 6 only for illness also included in the squad. to delay his start to the season with Llanelli, who he had joined from Newbridge in August. Nigel Davies, who captained Wales against France in Sep-tember when he won his 28th cap, will lead an Emerging side that has nine other full in-

ternationals on duty. Bath's back-row forward Nathan Thomas, who won his first cap as a replacement against South Africa earlier this month, gets another chance to impress along with the outstanding wing prospects Gareth Wyatt and Garan Evans. The

American Eagles have chosen

Bath flanker Dan Lyle will lead a party that also includes Welsh-born Mark Williams and current Bridgend lock Cliff Vogl. Recent Pontypridd re-EMERGING WALES IV USA Eagles, Rodney Pe-

EMILTERING WALLES IV USA ERBES, ROCHEV Perede, Newport, New Yeer's Day: Mi Back. (Swandsa); G Events (Lianelle), M Taylor Swensen), M Device Rianell, captarn), G Mysti (Pontypedd); L Jarvin (Cartin), P John Pontypedd); N Bynon (Pontypedd), G Jenkins (Swansen), L Mauste (Cartin), C Quitmell (Refront), P Arnold (Swansen), A Gibbs (Lianell), N Thomas (Sath), C Wyst (Lianell), Replacements: J Lavis (Pontypedd), S Camer (Newport), M Marsing (Materius M). L Lesses (Festil), S Jenkins (Materius M). L Lesses (Festil), S Jenkins

USA EASILES bround for four-match four of Wales: C Monrow (Santismen of Aspen), V Anktoni (Yan-lesed), C Cartis (US Combined Seruces), B High-tower (Santismen of Aspen), E Schraen (OMSAC), K Schamen (PonnayAsen Univ), B Wilsespe

Goulding fired up for 'friendly' with Wigan

Rugby League

DAVE HADFIELD

For all the much-trumpeted charms of summer rugby, clubs cannot quite bring themselves to desert the deep midwinter entirely. Traditional Boxing Day fixtures have been such a reliable money-spinner that they have survived the revolution.

Coaches and players might not much have liked the idea of games in the middle of what is now their close-season when it was first mooted, but chairmen, chief executives and bank managers most certainly do.

the festive pattern, first established in 1905, of Wigan and St Helens playing each other the day after Christmas. You can pronounce the tradition intact. of course, but it is the seriousplayed at Central Park this afternoon that will be the proof of the Christmas pudding. Fans starved of nourishment

for the last few months will probably turn up this year - Wigan are predicting at least 15,000 but any sign that the game is be-ing played as a glorified friendly will discredit it for the future. According to Saints' captain.

Bobbie Goulding, there is no danger of that. "Games between St Helens and Wigan are never friendlies," he said. "Any the wing. player going in thinking he can mountain of pride involved."

St Helens will be without the who came back battered from team Villeneuve last week.

the Australasian tour and would normally have welcomed a longer period of recuperation.

Against that, Saints will field a new signing, the former Auck-land Warriors prop. Julian O'Neill, and the reserve team hooker, Alan Cross, makes his debut in place of the injured Keiron Cunningham.
With Shaun Edwards still

recovering from a knee operation and Henry Paul profitably engaged in rughy union, Wigan will field a balf-back partnership of Nigel Wright and Craig Murdock. They will outdo Saints by nen, chief executives and bank hanagers most certainly do.

Hence the continuation of

having all three of their new signings - "Doc" Murray, Ian Sherratt and Stephen Holgate - in action for at least part of

the match. New faces abound at Headingley this morning as well, when Leeds meet Halifax. All three of the home side's signings ness with which the fixture is from Sheffield are scheduled to play: Ryan Sheridan at scrum-half, Dean Lawford in the new position for him of booker and Anthony Farrell on the bench.

Also among the substitutes will be two other newcomers in the former Hull winger, Paul Sterling, and the Australian prop, Jamie Mathiou. Neil Picchi, a New Zealander who was injured almost as soon as he arrived last season, re-emerges at loose forward, while Halifax welcome back St John Ellis on

Huddersfield, at home to take it easy is going to get hurt.

There might not be any league points at stake, but there is a Leeds, a first run. In the most parochial derby of them all, Batley and Dewsbury at least have injured Chris Joynt and Joey the benefit of some match prac-Hayes, while there were others tice, as they both played French

SNOW REPORT

SKI HOTLINE Latest snow and weather reports from 180+ resorts in Europe and Phone or fax:

000000 MYSTERY (37) S Dow 7 10.

0891 333 110 Skicodes: For a fax list of 180+ resort codes: 0990 100 843

SKI SNAPSHOT

At-a-glance fax guide to snow conditions at 180+ resorts

0897 500 601 SKIFAX

Where to find the best snow - by fax. Call SKIFAX - the ski facts: 0897 300 301

Area Last Lwr Upp Forecas ANDORRA 100% 14.12 60 90 Overcast 100% 14.12 90 140 Unsettled ArkesalHeavy lower down Pas De La Casa ...Lower nans heavy Soft, wet snow at all levels 75% 18.12 10 50 Cloudy, snow Packed powderly snow 100% 14.12 20 35 Snow, colder Good, slightly soft high up 100% 20.12 5 30 Snow CANADA FRANCÉ ITALY SWITZERLAND UNITED STATES 100% 22.12 140 165 Cloudy, snow 95% 22.12 150 180 Cloud/snow

Call us on 01733 33 55 13

Around the resorts

Calls to 0881 service cost S0ptmin Daytime Ratin, 45ptmin all other times - Calls to 0897 5 services cost £1,1min - Calls to 0897 abrvices cost £1,50min - Helptine: 0890 183 345

1.15 BOROUGHERIDGE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS C) £8,500 added 2m 5-1FLG1 GOLDEN HELLO (12) (CD) T Estarby 5 11 12 _____ A Dobble 53301/1 DARRHIG PAST (15) (D) M Harmond 6 11 9 _____ R Gunrity DP-6678 E1MC/JL, NOTE (22) Ms S Smith 5 11 4 _____ Mr P Marrey //12PV MISSIER NOVA (1,020) M Carrecto 7 11 4 ____ Richard Guest P052-32 CHORUS LIFE (55) P Beautront 7 10 13 _____ B Gration (7)
- 5 decisred -ETITION: Broom Golden Hallo, 15-8 During Past, 6-1, Mister Hove, 8-1 Cho-1.45 ST JOHN AMBULANCE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £5,000 added 2m

- 11 declared -3142F5- DISCO DES MOTTES (FR) (282) & Richards 5 12 0. /65020- NUMBERS (246) (CD) J FoScald 8 11 11 ______ F Titing 0-F4FGS THORNTON GATE (12) (CD) T Exemply 7 11 6 ____ R Gunday

Kinnear's recipe for success

Poor Joe Kinnear. Today he suffers the big Five-O for the second time in four days. No, that is not a prediction for Wimbledon's match against West Ham to-

day (having seen West Ham on Saturday, it is impossible to imagine them emulating Aston Villa's Sunday feat), but recognition of the Wimbledon manager's 50th birthday

When we met last week, to toast the occasion with a pre-birthday drink, Kinnear was quick to put the landmark into perspective. "I'm pleased thankful, to get there and be in good health. A lot of people don't. I lost my sister when she was 32. She died of cancer at a very young age. I lost a friend in Cyril Knowles who died very young." He also lost his natural father, and stepfather, when he was barely in his teens.

You do take stock," Kinnear said. "Everyone wants to get their half-century done, bat and pads on, 50 not out. But it is on you before vou know it. Age seems to pass you by at times, you are working so hard. Sometimes you think 'I could probably have enjoyed myself more when I was younger', but you don't know

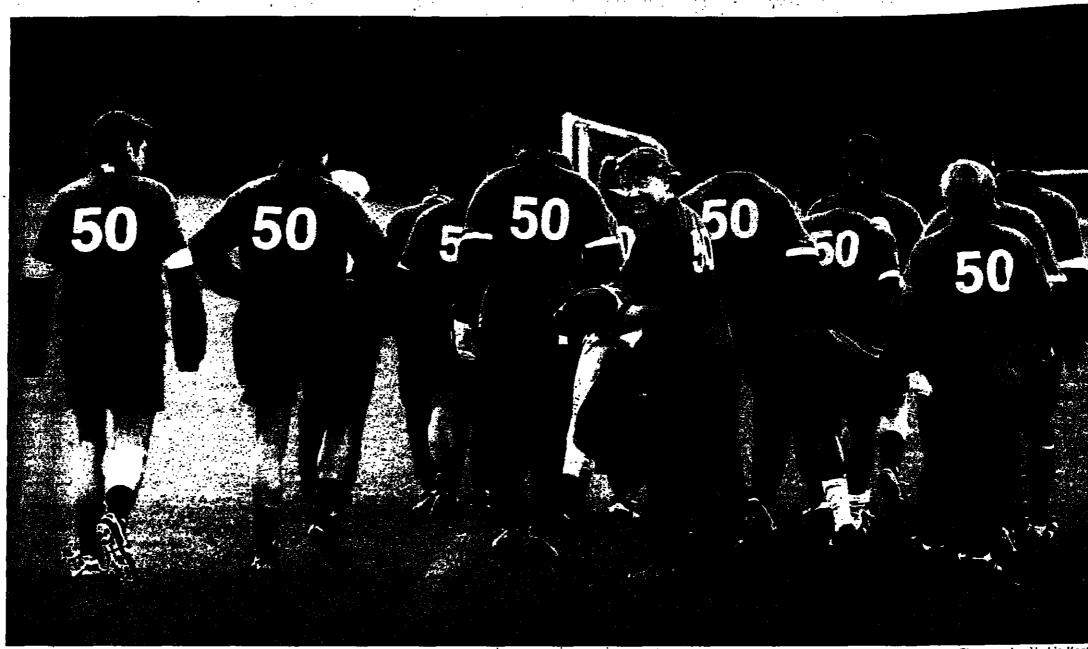
"I look back at my first cup final. I was 20 years of age, playing for Spurs [against Chelsea in the 1967 FA Cup final]. It's just a vague memwalking out of the tunnel and looking round at 100,000 people. Then I was just concentrating on the game. I remember walking up for my medal, then the euphoria after the match, jogging round with the tro-phy, then it's gone. The big blow was missing the next day - the trip round on the open-top bus - as I had gone off to play for Ireland.

'I look back and I've had 35 years in the game, amazing really. At 15 years of age I went to Tottenham's youth team, I had 12 years there as a professional, and two more at Brighton. Then an achilles injury finished me. There's been a lot of changes, I've seen a lot of good things and bad things.

Things are looking good for Kin-near at the moment. Wimbledon are high in the Premiership and Kinnear is in demand. "A big club [Blackburn or Manchester City] came in for me two weeks ago. It would have made me financially secure. I turned it down. I have a great relationship with Sam [Hamman]. We have worked hard to be where we are. I have always thought we were a good enough team to win something. I believe in my players, we have beaten

"It's hard, I don't have the strength in depth. Without the Sky money Dean Holdsworth would have gone well before now. I've been able to add to the squad instead. But if I lose Oyvind Leonhardsen I don't have an experienced player to replace him. Clubs like Newecastle and Manchester United can go out and buy someone. But if we stay injury-free we have a realistic chance

when I was manager there. It was like a pub side - the chairman was even of Leeds, but had since been sacked. a publican. The biggest problem was finding the wages. He would come in and say: I can't pay you this week because we are playing away from home - we've got no gate money."



Wimbledon's players give Joe Kinnear a 50th birthday surprise yesterday by turning up at training with a cake, presented by Vinnie Jones, and specially printed T-shirts

"The players would say: 'The cheque's ain't gone in, gaffer. When are we going to get paid?' I'd say: 'We 're lucky. We've got a home game Saturday - you'll be paid Sunday.'

"At the end of the season the chairman said to me: 'You've done a magnificent job keeping us up. I'd like to extend your contract.' I said: 'I've got a year to go. Let's talk about

When I came back from holiday

'if we can stay iniury-free we have a realistic chance of winning something'

there were two faces I didn't recognise. They said: 'We're with the new of winning something." consortium. Your chairman sold out. And by the way, Billy Bremnhave seen what Doncaster was like er's the new manager.' When I'd left for my holiday he was the manager

"I was on £25,000 a year - they gave me £12,000. Ray Harford is supposed to have come out of Blackburn with a quarter of a million. Times have changed and it shows the difference in clubs. When I left the secretary came running out and said to me: 'We want the car back.' I said: 'I've got to get home first. You'll have to come back down to London and pick it up.

"I was out of work for two weeks, then Bobby Gould rang me up and made me reserve team manager here. I met Sam. That was seven years ago. I've been here ever

The rest is mystery. How do Wimbledon do it? Preparation, organisation and hard work would appear to be the key. Over a small cider [he was driving], Kinnear let slip a few illustrations of why he spends hours watching matches and making notes. "I was so pleased the oth-

er week. We went to Sunderland and I said to them we have to worry about Ball. They said 'Kevin Ball?' I said Yes. To me he epitomises Sunder-land. Work rate, blood and thunder, wants another scar on his face. He's very dangerous arriving in the box - if the right cross comes in he's not afraid to throw his head in.' I said to Vinne [Jones], you pick him up, let Robbie [Earle] and Leo [Leon-

hardsen] bomb on. He and Vinne



game, but it worked.

"I saw Chelsea against them the following week. Sunderland get it down the left wing and cross it - and who's diving in with his header, a clear header unmarked? Kevin Ball. Bang. Goal. Terry Burton [Wimbledon coach! comes in the following day and says to me: 'See that goal, he had acres of room.'

"Before we played Sheffield Wednesday I said this goalkeeper [Kevin Pressman] mucks about with

close him down quick. Efan [Ekoku] did, took the ball off him and put it in the net. Great start.

"A lot of goalkeepers start attacks. Peter Schmeichel is one so, when he catches it, one of our forwards goes in and stands on him, blocks him. He starts moaning to the ref, the crowd start booing, but by then we're back on our tails and have picked everybody up. He ends up kicking it, it's a 50-50 knockdown _ and we work hard on that:

You want to cut off the

supply first. Against Black-burn I said to the full backs: 'If you do nothing else but press up on Gallacher and Wilcox, mark them tight and not allow them a cross, you have done a wonderful job for

us. Because that will out all the service to Sutton, who's by himself." "So, Wilcox gets the ball, Cunningham gets close, Wilcox gives it back to Le Saux. The midfield get

close to their midfield, he's no option but to whack it to Sutton. One centre-half will challenge him, the other will drop off and pick it up. Sutton's standing there with his arms out all frustrated and we've got the ball. We did a professional job

Photographs: Herbie Knott on them. They had a lot of ball but

never hurt us." The same applied to Villa in the Coca-Cola Cup, but, at Villa Park on Sunday, Cunningham made the sort of mistake that defeats every coach's planning. When the centre pair followed up with another error Wimbledon were drawn out of defence and well beaten. The long unbeat-

However, the prospects remain

'When Alex Ferguson decides to retire Manchester United

can give me a call'

good. Most of the squad are signed until the next century, crowds have risen - above Southampton and landlords Crystal Palace - and the club remains solvent. "We've never been in the red, Sam's very proud of that." The only irritant is Merton Council's failure to support a move back to the borough.

Kinnear has had more helpful political rulers - like the Prince of Nepal, where Kinnear coached the

national side. He lent Kinnear his private plane and a pilot to fly along the Annapurna Mountains. "It's a prop job," Kinnear recalled. "We are flying on our side along the mountains about 20 feet from Everest. It's a real change of pants job. I look at Bonnie [his wife] and her knuckles are white. Some experience."

Kinnear made the most of his travels. He went elephant trekking while coaching in India, rode carnels in Dubai and survived a riot in Malaysia. "The bricks were landing around the dug-out then they start-ed on the players. We headed for the dressing room."

Eventually he came back with Dave Mackay to Doncaster. Now, after five years at Wimbledon, he is the second longest serving manager in the Premiership. "My ambition is to be here longer than Alex [Ferguson]," he laughs. "When he decides to retire they can give me a call."

One can imagine him leaving for Old Trafford, but not for many other jobs. He has rejected the lure of Ireland and a fat bank balance. Wimbledon has a place in his heart that could be matched only by Tottenham. In the meantime he is looking through a crowded holiday programme to the Coca-Cola Cup quarter-final at Bolton on 8 January. "That's the important one." Wembley, Europe, and silverware beckon.

had a right ding-dong throughout the Barnsley aim to bridge the ever-growing gap

Nationwide League fore kick-off, although Dominic Cork, who flies to join Mike

Seventeen years ago today the Sheffield derby attracted nearly 50,000 spectators to Hillsborough, a record for the tormer Third Division. How the Football League could use a comparable clamour at the turnstiles today.

More than two-thirds of its 72

clubs are showing a drop in support this season, with the average for the current Third (nee Fourth) Division down by almost 15 per cent. Set against a continuing upward trend in the Premiership, where crowds have increased by three per cent. the figures provide unhappy vindication for those who predicted a widening gulf between the haves and have nots.

The self-styled elite might not be too enamoured by the prospect of Barnsley, with their 9.000 average, lowering the tone at the top level à la Wimbledon. Danny Wilson's side enter the second half of their season a point ahead of Bolton with a game in hand. Despite their reputation as Stoke's bogey team. a visit to the Victoria Ground will certainly test their mettle.

Stoke, well placed to push for a play-off place again, will be boosted by the news that Mark Stein is to stay on loan from Chelsea for a second month. An England international will also pledge himself to them be-

Atherton's men in New Zealand early next year, is to be paraded as the latest recruit to the Potters' supporters club rather than beefing up the midfield.

The First Division's first 30,000 attendance of the season is expected at Maine Road, where Manchester City will have their work cut out to complete a double over Port Vale. City, who continue to be linked with the former Nottingham Forest manager Frank Clark, have won only twice in the last nine matches. Franny Lee is likely to monitor events from Barbados: a case, perhaps, of fiddling while home yearns.

Vale are proving a formidable counter-attacking side away from home, reflecting great credit on John Rudge's resourceful stewardship in a 13-year reign during which City have gone through nine full-time managers (not to mention "temps" like Phil Neal). Rudge may, however, he without his top scorer, lifelong City supporter Tony Navior, who has a

hamstring injury. Another team faring better on their travels are Wolves. Remarkably, they have gained twice as many points away from Molineux, from one less game. That is hardly deterring the public from parting with their money. Three years ago next Saturday they began a run of 70 successive home gates of 20,000 or more. ternoon. With both clubs in the play-off zone, Wolves anticipate a turn-out in excess of 27,000 for the first time since the match against Leicester in February.

Bradford City, whose 85 per

cent rise in crowds is easily the biggest in Britain, should be close to capacity for the bottomversus-top meeting with Sheffield United. Bolton, down to second spot after eight games without a win, go to 24th-placed Grimsby in urgent need of points to go with the plaudits they are attracting. Although no club in the Sec-ond Division boasts a five-fig-

ure average, attendances are nearly nine per cent up. The top two. Brentford and Luton, are both away today, giving Bury a chance to close the gap. A win over Crewe would keep alive the bizarre possibility of a club with fewer than 5.000 regular patrons swapping places with neighbouring Manchester City. Fulham. Third Division lead-

ers both at the gate and on the pitch, will expect to maintain their progress at Exeter's expense. Peter Shilton, who helped Leyton Orient draw nearly 8,000 last Sunday, may actually suffer a slight fall-off for Northampton's visit as their legendary goalkeeper plays League match No 1,001. While that figure is normally associated with spotless carpets, Shilton will settle for a clean Their opponents that day, Ox-sheet, his 334th.



Aston Villa v (4) Chelsez - Fi

Last five League marches Aston: Ville: WARNAM. ChelschDLDLA.

Most her streight wins under his fielVille march his is utilized to make
the majors to a side in which Son officer
at Allosave is eight, scoring goets.
Chelses need to lightly in on their
away form and it kinds is in he could
strain to the defence in place of
youngster General: electif is seen
atte again after superstanding but, solo

N Forest v Man Utd

Last five League metaties: Notine Forest DIDLY: Man Uid

DWODM.
Caretaker Pearce's only poses iswhether on-loan Goughshould start insteet of Play. United, without Railisian
(back), are likely up par May and Gary
heafte at coruse back aren though
Johnson has been received of the squard
along with Andy Cole, who is social for
the reserves in his combbed garners
ter and businers into Backham play start
after shall good the fast three garnes.

Sheffield Wed v Arsenai (5,45)

Last five League matches: Black-burn DDWDL: Newcastle DLDLD

Midfielder Flitzroff faces a late fitness test (ankle), but Rovers will be boost-ed by return of their keeper Flowers

and centra-back Hendry. Shearer is set to return to Ewood Park for the first brie since his record £15m summer move to Tyneside. Ginola and Gillespie are Injury womes for Newcastle after Monday's 1-1 draw-against I hendrol

Sheff Wed v

Arsenal S

Last season: 1-0

Last five League matches: Sheff Wed DDWDD; A reenal WWWDL

Wednesday's Whittingham (gashed eye) could be forced to miss out. That

could open the way for Hirst to re-turn to the side. Skipper Adems is back

aliter suspension for Arsenal and is

other suspension for Arsener and a expected to replace Linghan. Obtoin returns tol replace McGowan at right back, white Gende is expected to con-tinue to deputies for his suspended fellow Francisman Vieira in midfield.

gainst Liverpool.

Last season: 2-1

11 Gransby v Botton...

30 Watford v Notes County (12.0)

16 QPT V INCOME.

17 Reading v West Bromwich

18 Southerd v Cherton (12.0)

Second Division Bristol City v Shrewsbury (12.0)

32 Wycombe v Walsell

36 Cambridge Utd v Scumborpe 37 Cardill v Torquey

39 Chester v Rochdele ... - Doricester v Scentorough Hereford v Swansez....

Hull y Luncoln Wigan y Darlington Bell's Scottish League

Premier Division 40 Aberdeen v Celfic 41 Dundee Uni v Motherwell.

First Division 45 East File v St. Mirren (2.0) 46 Morton v Civdebank

47 Pertick v Dondec 48 St Johnstone v Falkirk Second Division

- Dumberion v Strannaer Third Division

- Albiori Rovers v Forfar Arbrosth y Ross County . Other football thaires: Page 21

TEAM SHEET



Liverpool v Last sesson: did not play Last five League matches: Liverpool WEWED; Leicester LIWOL Manager Evens is expected to retain an unchanged side as the leaders go looking in continue their recent free-scoring home form (nine goals in two gemes). Injury-hit teleesterare missing the influence of their inspirational stipper Walsh, who underwent a name possition last week. Whitow is also ruled out with a knee lightness injury white Crayson has a slight hamsung pull.

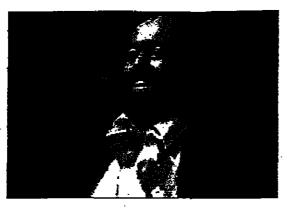
Tottenham v Southampton Last season: 1-0 -Last five League matches: Tot-tenham LLWDO; Southempton

With Campbell and Howells both having twisted ankles to the 1-1 draw with Sheff Wed, the way could be clear for Scales to make the full debut for Scales to make the full walke to see if he Tissier (thigh) is fit. Van Gobbel is set to be resalled in defence after a one-match term in place of the injured Dyden. Nelson in back in contention after a knee operation.

Bottom and the property of the Wimbledon V West Ham Last five League matches Wim-bledder DWWWL: West Ham DOIDE Their 19 mil unbessen run ended by Ville. Wirnbledon have been further the life in the bug with routiseers and Bate among the diseases at many a year and the disease in the games without a wing principle of the games and Hall as well as Johns. Learlies and Breacher Pour may be recalled.

Pick of the Day Pavarotti Returns to Llangollen

Patently very moved, Luciano Pavarotti (right, and his father - a surprisingly small man) returned this summer to the pretty Welsh town to sing at the Llangollen Festival. It was a sort of pilgrimage for the big man, since Llangollen was where Pavarotti first became inspired to sing in 1955, listening to the great Italian baritone, Tito Gobbi. His programme of songs includes works by Puccini, Verdi and Handel.





Film of the Day Vanya on 42nd Street 3.10pm C4

Superbly complex meditation on the nature of theatre – and the final film by Louis Maile (left). A group of actors come to a crumbling Manhattan theatre in their street clothes to rehearse Chekhov's Uncle Vanya - only for the rehearsal to become the play - and for the play, in the time-honoured manner of these things - to inter-twine with their lives. A fantastic transposition of play into film, with Wallace Shawn and Julianne Moore excellent in the lead roles.

Boxing Day television and radio

itė his ⁱOct^{ofe}

6.00 Children's BBC: Joe 90, 6.25 Santa and the Tooth Fairies, 6.50 Noddy, 7.20 Playdays, 7.40 Christopher the Christmas Tree, 8.00 Christmas Time! 8.30 Little Mouse on the Prairie, 8.55 Round the Twist, 9.20 A Flinistones Christmas

10.10 Table An American Tall: Fievel Goes West (Phil Nibbelink, Simon Wells 1991 US). The further adventures of the pioneering cartoon mice – here venturing into the Wild West (S) (4681133). 11.20 Lyddie. Period children's drama from Canada

about a young girl (S) (8639959). *
12.50 News and Weather (30212404), *
12.58 Regional News and Weather (35350881).
1.00 Neighbours (S) (58757065). *
1.20 Just William (R) (S) (30890539). *

1.50 Hist Never Say Never Again (Irvin Kershner 1983 US). Sean Connery returns after a 12-year histus in what is an unacknowledged remake of the 1965 adventure Thunderball (\$) (84193930). * 4.00 The Wrong Trousers. Christmas would no longer be Christmas without Wallace and Gromit, and here they are -- in Nick Park's Oscar-winning

nimated feature (R) (S) (336). 4.30 The World of Peter Rabbit and Friends. New series of animated Beatrix Potter animations, starting with "The Tale of Two Bad Mice" and "Johnny

Town-Mouse" (\$) (7121510). * 4.55 Final Score. With Ray Stubbs (S) (8392336). 5.15 News and Weather (5783997). *

5.25 Regional News (6620510). 5.30 Tom and Jerry (R) (854065). 5.35 Neighbours (S) (147626). *
6.00 GILAFree Willy (Simon Wincer 1993 US). Huge surprise hit about a troubled youngster (Jason

James Richter) who befriends a captive killer whale at a nearby marine park (S) (24159355). * 7.45 Winter on One (757268). 7.50 EastEnders (S) (655201), * 8.20 2point4 Children (S) (828607). *

9.00 One Foot in the Grave. Victor sees a ghost in the seasonal edition of the grumbly crumbly sitcom. Rula Lenska is the guest star (S) (9775). * 10.00 News and Weather (366171). * 10.15 AM Sommersby (Jon Amiel 1993 US). Better than-expected remake of the French movie, The

Return of Martin Guerre, updates the story to the American Civil War. Richard Gere is cast as the Confederate soldier who returns home after six years at war, and whose wife (Jodie Foster) can't quite accept that he is the same man who went away. Bill Pullman co-stars (S) (135572). * 12.05 GTANThe Graduate (Mike Nichols 1967 US).

Homecoming college boy Dustin Hoffman is seduced by his parents' neighbour, Anne Bancroft in Nichols's classic generation gap sex comedy. Katherine Ross co-stars (834350). 1.45 Clive Anderson Ali Talk. Danny DeVito and Angus Deayton feature (R) (S) (8802060). * 2.20 Weather (1747337). To 2.25am.

BBC 2

6.55 East Breakfast for Two (Alfred Santell 1937 US). Screwball comedy starring Barbara Starwyck as a Texan heiress who uses her womanly wiles to turn a carefree playboy (Herbert Marshall) into a no-nonsense businessman (S) (7917775). 8.00 Barbara Starwyck: Fire and Desire. Sally Field hosts this tribute (R) (S) (3226336).

8.50 ESEE Cattle Queen of Montana (Allan Dwan 1954 US). Pretty scenery, dud script as pioneer Barbara

Starmwyck defends her cattle against the injuns.
Ronald Reagan co-stars (2133591).

10.15 Little Dorrit: Nobody's Fault (Christine Edzard
1987 UK). Mammoth, six-hour labour of love
(from the novel by Charles Dickens) is showing — as in the cinema - in two parts (the second three hours shows tomorrow at 9.45am). The subject is money – largely the lack of it – and the superb cast includes Derek Jacobi, Alec Guinness, Cyril Cusack, Max Wall, Minam Margoyles – and Alan Bernett as a bishop (82160220). *
1.05 Cinderella. Rossin's opera, with italian mezzo-

soprano Cecilia Bartoli and the Houston Symphony orchestra (36775442).
3.45 Cheir of the Year. The youth semi-final (5621713).
4.25 The Halian Job (Peter Collinson 1969 UK).

Some truly bizarre casting (Benny Hill and Noel Coward in the same movie) in the stunt-packed heist flick with the famous Mini chase sequence. Michael Caine stars (90626607). * 6.00 Euro 96: When Football Carne Home (25862). * 7.00 Jeremy Clarkson's Motorworld UK (3881). 7.30 Mo: A Tribute to Mohamed Amin. Michael Buerk

profiles the cameraman, who died aboard a hijacked Ethiopian Airlines jet (S) (591). *
8.00 An Audience with Charles Dickens. Simon Callow narrates the court-scene from Dickens's Pickwick

Papers (S) (9201). † 8.30 Swan Lake. Matthew Bourne and Adventures in Motion Pictures' beautiful and very funny ("You laugh and laugh all the way through – and then, at the end, you cry" says our Louise Levene) rethinking of Tchaikovsky's ballet. It hit the headlines thanks to the decision to have men dance the famous corps de ballet of swans (swans as an image of strength instead of willowy grace) and obvious comparisons of the stifled Prince with our own Prince Charles (82775). 10.30 Steptoe and Son Christmas Special (R) (211355).

11.15 Gogs. Plasticine animated pre-history (932046). 11.25 Fine Cut: Crumb. Terry Zwigoff's fine, awardwinning portrait of counter-culture cartoonist Robert Crumb, the genius who gave us Fritz the Cat. Janis Joolin LP covers and all those "Keep on Truckin* T-shirt illustrations (S) (15998201). *

1.30 East The Seventh Victim (Mark Robson 1943 US). Genuinely creepy chiller from producer Val Lewton and starring Kim Hunter as a lass trying to save her sisters from the clutches of a group of devil-worshippers in New York City (6981447). 2.35 Weather (8617008). To 2.40am.

ITV/London

6.00 GMTV: 6.00 Bananas in Pyjamas. 6.20 Barney and Friends. 6.50 Bug Alerti 7.30 News, Weather and Sport. 8.05 GMTV Review (7425881). 9.25 MMCCannonball Run II (Hal Needham 1983 US). Carraces and star cameos in this silly sequel. With

Burt Reynolds, Shirley MacLaine, Dom DeLuise, Jackie Chan, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jnr, and Frank Sinatra (S) (17755341). * 11.20 Survival Special (4812171). *

12.20 Cartoon Time (9963626). 12.35 News, Weather (91354794). * 12.50 Example only Farm (George Roy Hill 1988 US). New York sports journalist, Chevy Chase, decides on a move to the country (S) (94520220). *

2.45 The Willows in Winter, Follow-up to last year's acclaimed adaptation of The Wind in the Willows. Based on the book by William Horwood - itself a sequel to Kenneth Grahame's original classic novel -and voiced by Rik Mayall, Alan Bennett, Michael Palin and Michael Gambon (S) (7869256). *

4.10 Home and Away Special (R) (S) (6435862). * 4.40 News, Weather (4969713). * 4.50 MEMThe Secret Garden (Agnieszka Holland 1994 UK). Lovely looking and imaginative retelling of Frances Hodgson Burnett's children's

classic. Kate Maberly plays the young girl packed off to stay with her sicitly cousin in Yorkshire – widiscovers a secret walled garden. Maggie Smith shines as the housekeeper (84907591). * 6.45 The Russ Abbot Show Christmas Special (614510). *

7.30 Michael Barrymore's Strike It Rich (317). * 8.00 The Bill. A burglar's funeral is disrupted when the hearse containing his coffin is stolen (6355). 8.30 Emmerdale (S) (5862). *

9.00 Peter Benchley's the Beast. 1/2. When sailors and divers begin to disappear mysteriously, a local fishing-boat captain suspects that a deadly giant squid is to blame ... (7201). 1 10.30 News, Weather (403959). *
10.40 The Lee Evans Show. Norman Wisdom-style

slapstick. With a guest appearance by legendary singer, Tony Bennett (411268). 11.40 Elem Doorways (Peter Werner 1993 US), A visitor

from a parallel universe lands on Earth where she is immediately forced to go on the run from both the FBI and the villainous agents following her through time (251539). 1.15 Instant Replay 1996 Review of the pop musical

year (S) (2932756). 2,20 They Live (John Carpenter 1989 US). A drifter arrives in Los Angeles and is horrified to discover the city's population dominated by mindcontrolling aftens (997195).

4.00 Sound Bites (S) (87067242). . The Pickwick Papers (Warwick Gilbert 1985 US). Animated version of (3960447). To 5.30am.

Channel 4

6.50 Pro Stars (R) (8519171). 7.15 The Greatest Tune on Earth (7022201).
7.40 The Babysitters Club (R) (8507997). 8.15 Little Shop (R) (7548775). 8.40 Where on Earth is Carmen San Diego?

(9017572).

9.00 The Big Breakfast(23688).

10.00 Hangin' with Mr Cooper (R) (S) (80292). *

10.30 Crystal Maze (R) (S) (2978). *

11.30 Back to the Future (R) (S) (5503187).

11.55 The Pink Parither (S) (9734423).

12.25 God in the House. An outdoor Christian rave in

Littlehampton (SJ (5843012). *
12.55 Racing from Kempton, The 1.10, 1.40, 2.15 and

2.45 races (94927978). 3.10 ESS Vanya on 42nd Street (Louis Maile 1994 US). Seeof the Day, above (44595442). *
5.20 News Summary and Weather (6621249).
5.25 Abel's Island (R) (1304423).

6.00 Hollycalts (S) (423). *
6.30 Pavarotti Returns to Llangolien. See Pick of the Day, above (S) (84201). *
8.00 Starrier Baxter in Roel Terms. The Scottish comic

returns with a compendium of classic sketches from his TV specials, as well as previously unseen material (S) (2249). *

9.00 13531492: The Conquest of Paradise (Ridley Scott 1992 US). Of the two major movies made to mark the quincentenary of Christopher Columbus's discovery of the Americas, Ridley Scott's was by far the darker and more ambitious – putting the journey within the context of Old World colonialism rather than straightforward school text-book heroics. Covering the 20 years prior to his worldshattering journey, Gérard Depardieu proves a shrewd choice as Columbus, while Sigourney

A 30-man camera team shot over one million feet of film to capture Bette Midler packing in a decade's worth of material on stage in Pasadena. Glitzy-looking and raucous (709591).

1.30 Enter Fantastic Planet (René Laloux 1974 Ft/Cz). Remarkable, highly original animated sci-fi that won a special prize at the Cannes Film Festival. It's set in a futuristic planet inhabited by a mechanised race called the Draags, which keeps human beings as pets - until the captives decide the time has come to fight back (9226176).

2.50 THE The Raggedy Rawney (Bob Hoskins 1987 UK). A Rawney is apparently someone who is halfmad and half-magic - which, also, doesn't really summarise Hoskins's outing as director, co-writer and star. It's mildly interesting, nonetheless, with Hoskins playing the leader of a gypsy-like band of refugees in a war-ravaged, non-specific country at the turn of the century. The rawney in question is shell-shocked army deserter played by Dexter Fletcher (359911). To 4.45am.

ITV/Regions

As London except: 1.15am Film: Curiosity Kills (539114). 2.50am Not Fade Away (6259973). 3.50-5.25am Film: First Love (104379).

CHANGEL 3 MORTH EAST/YORKSHIRE As London except: 1.15am Film: Sideout (248824). 3.10am Not Fade Away (3860911). 4.10am The Elf Who Saved Christmas (47097756). 4.40-5.55am Film: Great Expectations

As London except: 1.15am Film: Curiosity Kills (539) 14). 2.50am Not Fade Away (6259973). 3.50-5.25am

Film: First Love (10-4379). MEDIDIAN As London except: 1.15am Film: Curiosity Kills (539114), 2.50am Not

Fade Away (6259973). 3.50-5.25am Film: First Love (104379). WESTCOUNTRY As London except: 1.15am Film: Curiosity Kills (539114). 2.50am Not

Fade Away (6259973). 3.50-5.25am Film: First Love (104379). CENTRAL

As London As C4 except: 10.00am Bless This House (80292). 10.30 Film: The Battle of the Sexes (23990152). 12.05pm The Pink Panther (2935152). 12.20 Slot Meithrin (3960862). 3.10 Citizen 2000 (7298046). 4.30 5 Pump (27715). 6.00 News (987125). 6.05 Heno (121249). 6.35 Sion a Sian (370688). 7.00 Mr Broc (6201). 8.00 Penblwydd Hapus (4997). 8.30 News (233423). 8.45 Y Palmant Aur (342268). 9.45 Film: My Left Foot. Starring Daniel Day-Lewis, Brenda Fricker, Ray McNally, Cyril Cusack and Adrian Dunbar. A portrait of Christy Brown, the Irish artist born with cerebral palsy. Directed by Jim Sheridan this biopic is intensely moving and both Daniel Day-Lewis and Brenda Fricker won Oscars for their extraordinary performances. (809084). 11.40-1.40am Film: Outrageous Fortune Starring Bette Midler, Shelley Long, Peter Coyote and Robert Prosky. Comedy about two women who find out they are both having an affair with the same man after

he apparently dies in a mysterious

explosion. (641978).

Radio

Radio 1

8.00am Simon Mayo's Cold Turkey 11.30 George Michael in Concert 1.00 Charlie Jordan 3.00 Dave Pearce 6.00 Evening Session Rewind 9.00 Star Review: Shirley Manson 10.00 in Concert Classic. Blur 12.00 Mary Anne Hobbs 4.00-

023-90.2MeV AM

6.00am Alex Lester 8.00 Wake Up to Wogan 10.00 Ken Bruce 1.00
Christmas Cornedy Classics 1.30
Sounds Like Disney 3.00 Steve
Wright 5.00 Christmas on Broadway
6.00 Robson and Jerome 7.00 My Mammy and Me 7.30 David Allan 9.00 Paul Jones 10.00 Mark Knopfler: Roots 10.30 Vintage Christmas: The Blue Carbuncle 11.00 Bob Harris 1,00 Patrick Lunt 3.00-6.00am Mo Dutta

(90.2-92.4Mb) FIIO 5.00am On Air. 9.00 Morning Collection. 10.00 Musical Encounters. 12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 Opera Matinee: Fidelio. Heroic drama by Beethoven in which Leonore rescues her husband Florestant from unjust imprisonment.
3.30 Bath Mozartest 1995. MozartTrio in E flat, K498; Piano Quartet in G minor, K478. Brahms: Clarinet Quintet in B minor, Op



Choice

but rather darker and deeper. Michael Maloney plays the title role; and later on gets a tad (7.20pm R4), an account of his preparations for playing Hamlet.

5.00 Music Machine, Is Latin Jazz, or Jazz Latin? Tommy Pearson ex-amines the widespread impact of traditional Latin American styles.

7,30 Chamber Music from

10.00 Music Restored. 10.45 The Shellac Show. 11.30 Composers of the Week-Chausson and Duparc. 12.30 Jazz Notes. Digby Fairweather introduces Duke

phony. Presented by Stephen Johnson. 6.45 Digital Masters

Manchester.
9.25 By Woody Allen. The Lunatic's
Tale. The dark story of a New
York doctor forn between the de-

Ellington's 1957 version of the Nutrracker Suite, specially record-ed by the Echoes of Ellington. 1.00 Through the Night. With Don-aid Macleod. 5.00-5.00am Sequence.

The afternoon play is a slightly overblown version of Ursula Le Guin's A Wizard of Earthsea (2pm R4), ostensibly a children's fantasy actorish in Daring to Be the Dane

Radio 4 62.494.64b2 PM, 1984b2 LM 6.00am News. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Prayer for the Day. 6.30 The Living World.

9.00 (LW) Test Match Special. Live 9.00 (LW) Test Match Special. Live from Harare with Peter Boxer, Henry Blofield and Simon Mann. 9.00 (FM) News. 9.05 (FM) A Brush with Bicester. 9.45 (FM) Spiler's Fleas, 10.00 (FM) Delly Service. 10.00 (FM) The Amherst Myth. 10.15 (LW) On This Day. 10.30 (FM) Derek Cooper's Neces-

` sary Pleasures. 10.30 (LW) Test Match Special. 11.00 Park Bench and Co. 11.30 The Old Curlosity Shop. 12.00 Pald Company. 12.25 Wordly Wise.
1.00 The World at One. (FM only from 1.07pm) With Nick Clarke.

1.07 (LW) Test Match Special. 1.40 (FM) The Archers. 1.55 Shipping Forecast. 2.00 A Wizard of Earthsea. See Choice, above.

Choice, above.
4.00 News.
4.05 The Waltons. Dilly Barlow visits the town of Schulyer in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia to meet the real Walton clan and their Hollywood relations.
4.45 Short Story. Rumpole and the Widow Twankey. By John Mortimer.

6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.15 Letter from Over Here. 6.30 The New York Stand-Up Come-

dy Show. 7.00 News. 7.05 The Archers. 7.20 Daving to be the Dane. See Choice, above. 8.00 Tales from the Organ Loft.

8.45 My Granny's Larder. Riberta. 9.00 Journeys to Imaginary Places. 9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature. Tim Marlow examines the mythical status of the artist's studio. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Charlottetown Banquet. By Robertson Davies.
11.00 Bitter Medicine. By Sara Paretsky. 2/6). 11.30 All About Eve.

12.00 News.
12.30 The Late Book: Sir Henry at Rawlinson End. Written and performed by Viv Stanshall. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00-6.00am As World Service.

(893, 90940; 844) 6.05am Christmas Quiz 7.00 Breakfast 9.05 Hong Kong at Christmas 11.05 Never Walk Alone 11.30 Sport 5.30 The Match 10.05 Off Piste 11.05 Weather Reports 11.35 Tales of the Turi 12.05 After Hours: Early Call 2.05 Up All Night 5.05-6.00am The Umpire Strikes Back

Classic FM

(100-1019Mb Hi)
7.00am Mike Read on Boxing Day
10.00 The Lighter Side of Christmas
12.00 A Christmas Question of Classics 1.00 Alan Mann 3.00 Jack
and the Beanstalk 4.00 Jamie Chick
7.00 Stanley Glasser's A-Z of Christmas
8.00 Evening Concert 10.00
Michael Mappin 1.00 Sally Peterson.
4.00-7.00am Mark Griffiths.

Virgin Radio Wight Radus 1215, 197-126Mz W 1058Mz Rb 6.00am Jeremy Clark 10.00 Gra-ham Dene 2.00 Lynn Parsons 7.00 (FM) Paul Coyte 7.00 (MW) Robin Banks 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00-

World Service

World Service
(1984:14)
1.00em Newsdesk 1.30 Outlook
1.55 Words of Faith 2.00 Newsday
2.30 Stories by W.W. Jacobs 3.00
News 3.15 Sports Roundup 3.30
Focus on Faith 4.00 News 4.30 Off
the Shell: Caribbean Christmas 4.45
Folk Routes 5.00 Newsday 5.30
Record News 5.45 Who's Who in
Music 5.50-6.00am Insider's Guide

Satellite

Movie Channel 6.00am Porco Rosso (1992) (25591), 7.30 The New Adventures of Little Toot (1993) (35978). 8.30 Grizzly Adams and the Treasure of the Bear (1995) (48510), 10,00 Sister Act It: Back in the Habit (1993) (64775). 12.00 Night of the Twisters (1996) (33404). 2.00 With Honors (1994) (92572). 4.00 Andre (1994) (93499065), 5.40 Sister Act II: Back in the Habit (1993) (81640065). n the Pacit (1993) (2104003). 7.30 The Movie Show (7591, 8,00 Jack and Sarah (1995) (17881). 10.00 Legands of the Pall (1995) (78779978). 12.15 Goodbye Em-manuelle (1977) (826466). 1.55 ff Someone Had Known (1995) (582814). 3.30-5.10am Enter the Ninja (1981) (86718).

Sky Movies 6.00am Spoils of War (1993) (25220), 8,00 The Sandiot (1993) (52539), 10.00 The Hudsucker Proxy (1994) (66133), 12,00 Heck's Way Home (1995) (35862), 2,00 Cool Runnings (1993) (94930), 4,00 The Beverly Hillbillies (1993) (2930). 6.00 Mightly Morphin Power Rangers (1995) (14794). 8.00 Cool Runnings (1993) (31473607), 9,40 US Top 10 (453423), 10,00 Pulp Fiction (1994) (36784959), 12,35 Bullets

sucker Proxy (1994) (85723485). Ste Movies Gold. 4.00pm Haunted Honeymoon (1986) (4580) 171). 5.55 Wargames (1983)

Over Broadway (1994) (711224). 2.15 Harry and Tonto (1974) (726534). 4.10-6.00am The Hud-

(72094510). 7.50 The Karate Kid (7234510), 730 The Kazas Kir. (1984) (51546572), 10.00 The Mag-nificent Seven (1960) (89136152), 12.10 Toolsle (1982) (1546485), 2.10 it Started in Naples (1960) (7524718), 3.50-5.10am Heurited

Sky Sports 1 7.90am Racing (14881). 7.30 Cndket: Second Test - Zimbabwe Vs England (1223046). 3.30 Sports Centre Preview (96171), 5,00 Footbalt: Shellield Wednesday Vs Arsenal - Live (863794). 7.30 Football: Aberdeen Vs Celtic - Live (85/1959), 10.00 Sports Centre (7657/1), 10.30 Angling Masters (37/084), 11.30 Asien Golf (29189). 12.30 Football Special (55485). 2.30 Football: Scottish League (90718), 4,30-5,00am

Sey Sports 2 8.00pm Anging Masters (5285133), 9.00 Wordsuring (2509510, 9.30 World of Saling (4751355), 10.00 Tians World Sport (5206084), 11.00 Bobby Charlion's Football Scrapbook (3431539), 12.30-1.00em Rugby (7967911).

7.20 Press Your Luck (4921,355), 7.40 Jeopardy! (3148775), 8.10 Hotel (5593572), 9.00 Another World (5959125) 9.45 Opah (7843997). 10.40 Rasi TV (4766510): 11.10 Saly Jesty Raphael (9398510): 12.00 Geral-do (74152): 1.00 Jamy Jones (50572). 2.00 Opan (38959), 3.00 WWF (66591), 5.00 Star liel: The Next Generation (7626), 6.00 The Simpsons

(1317). 6.30 The Simpsons (5997). 7,00 The Simpsons (8355), 7,30 Super models (4881), 8,00 Signatures (20355). 9.00 Nash Bridges (23442), 11.00 Star Tiele The Next Garrention (87713). 12.00 LAPD, (15060), 12.30 Real TV (44422), 1.00-7.00em Hil Max (28440).

7.00pm Star Tiele Deep Space Nine (1984510), 8.00 Police Rescue (1960930), 9.00 Inspector Malgret (1970317). 11.00 David Letterman (1970317). 11.00 David Letterman (1308404). 12.00 Film: The Southern Star (1969) (2700350). 2.00-6.00em Hit Mix Long Play (8714114).

6.00am TV 7.00 Spanish 7.30 Mind and Body 8,00 Why Files 8,30 Video Box 9,00 Psychic Pets 9,30 Fashion 10.00 Reveletions 10.30 Carrary Wharf 11.00 Mind and Body 11.30 When 11.00 Mind and body 11.30 Spanish Archer 12.00 Revelations 12.30 Why Files 1.00 Bushido on Boding Day 2.00 Fashion 2.30 Mind and Body 3.00 Bushido on Boding Day 4.00 Spanish Archer 4.30 Why Files 5.00 Bushido on Boding Day 5.00 Eachido 6.30 Gaife Short 7.00 6,00 Fashion 6.30 Gait's Sport 7,00 Spenish Archer 7.30 Revelators 8.00 Psychic Pets 8.30 Missing Persons 9.03 Why Files 9.30 Looking for Love 10,03 Gait's Sport Show 10.30 Stand-Up Live Special: Frank Carson 11.30 The Best of Edenquest 12.30 Kiss TV: Kiss Clubs 1.30 Home Shopping 2.00 Sport Live Special: Page 2.00 Sport Live Special Live Special has 19 Ness Cubis List Mittle Stipping 2.00 Stand-Up Live Special; Mile Reid 3.00 Ederquest with Sandra Laylor 4.00 Spanish Archer 4.30 Pin Money 5.00 Sport Live 5.30-6.00am Home Shopping

Going Out

CINEMA NEW RELEASES CONEMA NEW RELEASES

101 DALMATIANS (I) Starring Glenn Close
102 Cruells De VI. Accom Manner Villore
12:30pm, 1pm, 3:30pm, 3:30pm, 6pm, 8:30pm,
9:10pm Borbican Chemne 3pm, 6pm, 8:30pm,
9:10pm Borbican Chemne 3pm, 6pm, 8:30pm,
8:50pm; Crepton Warner Pilloge 1pm, 1:30pm,
8:50pm; Crepton Warner Pilloge 1pm, 1:30pm,
8:30pm; Crepton Warner Pilloge 1pm, 1:30pm,
8:30pm; Crepton Warner Pilloge 1pm, 1:30pm,
8:30pm; Crepton Warner Pilloge 1pm, 1:30pm,
1:30pm, 1:55pm, 3:40pm, 2:0pm, 5:30pm,
1:30pm, 1:55pm, 3:40pm, 4:5pm, 4:45pm,
6:30pm, 7:30pm, 8:50pm, 9:40pm; Pineton
6:10pm, 6:40pm, 8:40pm, 3:30pm, 4:40pm,
6:10pm, 6:40pm, 8:40pm, 9:10pm; Fischley
18:amse 12:40pm; 1:20pm, 1:30pm, 1:30pm,
8:5pm, 6:20pm, 8:40pm, 4:40pm;
1:30pm, 6:50pm, 8:40pm, 4:40pm;
1:30pm, 6:50pm, 8:40pm, 4:40pm;
8:5pm, 6:20pm, 8:40pm, 4:40pm;
8:pm, 6:20pm, 8:40pm, 6:20pm, 4:40pm;
8:pm, 6:20pm, 8:40pm, 8:40pm;
8:pm, 6:20pm, 8:40pm;
8:pm, 6:20pm, 8:40pm;
8:pm, 6:20pm, 8:40pm;
8:pm, 6:20pm, 8:40pm;
8:pm, 6.10pm, b. Opm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm; Fischley Stames 12.40pm; Generalish Charmas 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 6.20pm; R.40pm; Harnew Muster 2.10pm, 8.40pm; R.40pm; Harnew Muster 2.10pm, 9.30pm; Hollows Coleon 1.30pm, 1.20pm, 1.40pm, 6.20pm, 6pm; Hard Osloon 12.50pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm; Gland Coleon 12.50pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm; Gland Coleon 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm; Gland Firstweet 1.40pm, 2.10pm, 6.20pm; Gland Firstweet 1.40pm, 2.40pm; Gland Firstweet 1.40pm, 8.45pm; Seept Compare Osloom 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm; Rechtown Premier Concess 1.30pm, 8.45pm; Rechtown Premier Concess 1.30pm, 8.45pm; Rechtown Promier Concess 1.30pm, 8.45pm; Rechtown Promier Concess 1.30pm, 8.45pm; Rechtown Promier Concess 1.30pm, 8.45pm; Rechtown Stando Ipm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm; 9.30pm; Richard Osloom 1.50pm, 9.30pm; Rechtown 1.45pm, 4.40pm, 5.15pm, 7.45pm; Sarphier Conces 1.30pm, 1.40pm, 5.15pm, 7.45pm; Sarphier Conces 1.30pm, 8.40pm; Rechtown 1.50pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm; 6.30pm; 8.50pm; 6.35pm; 1.50pm; 8.75pm, 8.75pm; 1.30pm, 8.75pm, 8.75pm; 1.50pm; 1.30pm, 8.75pm; 1.50pm; Missalen Rock 1.40pm, 5.30pm; 8.35pm; Wissalen Rock 1.40pm, 5.30pm; Rock 1.40pm; 8.35pm; Wissalen Rock 1.40pm; 4.50pm; 8.35pm; Rock 1.40pm; 4.50pm; 4.50pm; 8.35pm; Rock 1.40pm; 4.50pm; 8.35pm; Rock 1.40pm; 4.50pm; 4.50pm; 8.35pm; Rock 1.40pm; 4.50pm; 4.50pm; 8.35pm; Rock 1.40pm; 4.50pm; 4.

DAYLIGHT (12) Sylvester Stalions in a watery action-advectance. Barking Odeon 3.35pm, 6.25pm, Croxica Watter Village Lott, 3.40pm, 6.25pm, Croxica Watter Village Lott, 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 2pm, 4.05pm, 4.55pm, 6.50pm, 7.15pm, 9.35pm, Hom; Empire Leicester Square 2pm, 4.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.00pm; Franchey Watter 130pm, 4.00pm, 6.50pm, 9.00pm; Franchey Odeon 120pm, 5.45pm, 6.20pm, 9.00pm; Harrow Watter 3.0pm, 6.20pm, 8.00pm; Rengled Odeon 120pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm; Naplet Contest Virgin 12ncon, 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm; UCI Whiteleys 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.35pm, 9.25pm; Virgin Checket 2.44pm, 3.20pm, 7.55pm
EVITA (PC) Machanes stars as Era Dustrie. Actor Watter Village Giffsom, 9.15pmt, Barking Odeon 6.30pm; Bromley Odeon 5.50pm, 9.00pm; Edmonter Village 6.00pm, 9.15pmt, Barking Odeon 6.30pm; Bromley Odeon 5.50pm, 9.00pm; Hallowsy Odeon 6.35pm; Iffard Odeon 6.30pm; Hallowsy Odeon 6.35pm; Jiffard Odeon 6.35pm; Jiffard 6.30pm; Ji

130pm, 4pm, 630pm, 930pm, Remified Odeon Liberty 2 240pm, 5pm, 730pm; Virgin Fallman Read 2 30pm, 530pm, 830pm; Virgin Bocadero 125pm, 440pm, 7pm 920pm HOME FOR THE HOLEDAYS (15) Annusing 1205pm, 225pm, 440pm 7pm 9.23pm
HOME FOR THE HOLBAYS (15) Amusing portrait of American family life, storang Holly Hunter and Anne Bancroft. Carzon Mear End 1.35pm, 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm
MRALE ALL THE WAY (FG) Article Schwarzenegger stars. Acton Marner Village 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm; Barbing Odeon 4pm; Berkmithm ABC 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6pm, 6.45pm, Bornhey Odeon 2.10pm, 4.10pm, fathornton Lee Vollage 2.10pm, 4.10pm, fathornton Lee Vollage UCI 12.11pm, 4.50pm, 6.30pm, 5pm, Farchiry Marner It. 50pm, 15pm, 3.35pm, 5.30pm, 7.45pm, 10pm; Fathornton Huner Zym, 4.20pm, 5.30pm, 8.50; Hollowey Odeon 2.45pm, 4.35pm, 6.5pm; Rodeon 2.pm, 4.5pm, 7.5pm; Odeon Land Bill Odeon 2pm, 4.5pm, 7.5pm; Odeon Land Bill Odeon 2pm, 4.5pm, 7.5pm; Odeon Land Bill Odeon 2pm, 4.5pm, 7.5pm; Odeon Land Land Leichter Spainer 1.20pm, 3.20pm, 5.45pm, 8.25pm; 1.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.65pm; Patherson Union 2.5pm, 4.5pm, 6.5pm; Rehmond Odeon Stadio 2pm, 4.10pm, 7pm; Romford Odeon Stadio 2pm, 4.10pm, 7pm; Romford Odeon Stadio 2pm, 4.10pm, 7pm; Romford Odeon Stadio 2pm, 4.10pm, 5pm; 7lage; Supple Corner Virgin 12ncon, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 4.5pm, 7pm, 7lage; Supple Corner Virgin 12ncon, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 4.5pm, 7pm, 7lage; Supple Corner Virgin 12ncon, 2.10pm, 4.25pm, 3.25pm, 4.25pm, 4.25pm, 3.25pm, 1.25pm, 1.25pm,

ROALD DAHLS MATILDA (PG) Deficiously twisted fairytale. Acton Warms Village 1 30pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm; Browley Odeon 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm; Coyslon Warms Village 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm; Edmonton Les Walley UCI 12 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm; Finchley Warner 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 0.20pm, 9pm; Greenwich Cimenta 4.55pm, 6.35pm, 9pm; Greenwich Cimenta 4.55pm, 6.35pm, 9.05pm; Harnow Warmer 3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm; Halloway Odeon 2.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, 8.10pm; Maswell Hill Odeon 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm; Fellowar Previous Timent 12.10pm, 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm; Pellowar Previous Cimenta 1.210pm, 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm; Rary-Cament 1.55pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm; Rary-Cament 1.55pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm; Rary-Cament 1.55pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm; Roars-Jord Odeon 1.225pm, 2.35pm, 9.15pm; Roars-Jord Odeon 1.225pm, 2.35pm, 9.15pm; Roars-Jord, 5.50pm, 9.10pm; Edmontale Odeon 1.225pm, 8.20pm, 4.45pm, 6.50pm, 9.50pm; 1.50pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm, 2.50pm, 2.50pm, 2.50pm, 2.50pm, 4.40pm, 6.30pm, 4.50pm, 5.20pm; Higher Hest End 2.40pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 9.10pm; Warmer Hest End 2.40pm, 6.30pm, 7pm, 50pm; Farrithers Farrithers Contract (12) The crew

9.10pm STAR TREK: FIRST CONTACT (12) The Grew STAR TREK, FRST CONTACT (12) The crew of the Standing Enterprise E lock phases with the merches Borg, Acton Wanter Village 1.10pm, 2.10pm, 3.50pm, 4.40pm, 6.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.20pm, 9.40pm, Branley Oderat 2.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.45pm; Conjoin Wanter Village 1.15pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm; Edgaste Bellewer 12.10pm, 2.40pm, 5.70pm, 8.10pm; Edmanton Lee Valley UCI 22.10pm, 4.35pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm, 9.50pm; Engine Leichter Square 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm; Finckley Wanter 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7.45pm; Finckley Wanter 1.40pm, 4.20pm, 7.45pm; 9.45pm;

Greenwich Crossus 4.15pm, 4.35pm, 8.55pm;
Harrow Wierser 2.25pm, 3.25ppm, 4.51pm,
6.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.10pm, 9.50pm, 1.60kway
Odeon 1.25pm, 4.90m, 6.30pm; Bird Odeon
12.30pm, 3.90m, 8.35pm, 6.30pm; Swass
Connec Coloon 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 9.30pm; Swass
Connec Coloon 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 9.30pm; Swass
Connec Coloon 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.35pm,
8.40pm, 8.40pm, 8.55pm; Paras 1.25pm,
3.50pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm; Paras 1.25pm,
3.50pm, 6.30pm, 8.10pm; Ronsport Odeon 1.2pm;
2.15pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm; Supple Connec Vingin, 1.0pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm; Supple Connec Vingin 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm; UCI
Whitekey 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm;
Vingin Falkum Road 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm;
Whodford ABC 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.95pm; 9.30pm;
SURWIMING PICASSO (15) Biopic of the
great artist, stars Authory Hopkins. Virgin
Haymanket 2.15pm, 5.10pm, 8.05pm; Marner-West End 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.45pm;
THEATRE WEST END HIGLIGHTS

Stars Albert Finney. Mindhem? Charing Cross Rd, WC2 (0171-369 1736) & Leic Sq. The-Sat 8.00 (not 31 Dect. [4] 3.00 [7][1] 5.00 (extra mats 27, 31 Dec. 5.00), £9.50-£25, 90 mins. BY JÉEVES

THEATRE WEST END HIGHIGHTS

Lloyd Webber/Ayrkbourn musical.

Lydr Shaficsbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5045)

6 Pice Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45, [4][7] 3.00 (extra mat 27 Dec, 3.00), £11.50-£25, 140 mins. E CERCLE INVISIBLE
Froquire distillation of the circus form,
Monatid Puckle Dock, EC3 (0171-236
2211) & Blackfrian, Bas-Sat 7-30 (not 31
Doc, 1 Ian, extra perf 30 Dec, 7-30), [1] 4-00
(extra mats 26, 31 Dec, 1 Ian, 4-00), ends 12
Inn, £13.50-£19.50, comes & standby £10,
child £10, family of four £30, 120 mins.

Penckope Wilton in Chekhov's charsic. Albry St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) ← Leic Sq. Mon-Sm 7-30, [5][7] 3.00, cads 25 Jan, £10-£25, 165 mans. A CHRISTMAS CAROL A CHRIST HOLS CAROL.

SHATS Richard Bruers as the auster Schooge.

Lytic Hommontonith King Street, W6 (0181741 2311) & Hammontonith. 26-28, 20, 31
Dec., 7-20, maits 26, 28, 31 Dec., 2-30, ends 18
Jan. 210-C15, under 164 86, all seats Mon

A DOLL'S HOUSE A DOLL'S HOUSE Stars Janet McRer and Owen Teale, Physionse Northumberland Awenue, WC (1)17-839 4401) © Embankment. Mos Sat 7.30 (no.31 Dec.), [7] 230 (extra mat 2 Jan, 2.30), cads 1. san, £[0-£23.50, 180 mins. JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR Lucaon Wellington Street, WC2 (0171-656 1802) & Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.45, [4][7] 3.00 (cura mats 27 Dec. 3.00), £15-£32.50.

LAUGHTER ON THE 23RD FLOOR Gene Wilder in Neil Simon's evenedy, Quees's Shaftenbury Ave, W1 (017)-494 5590) & Face Circ. Mon-Sat 8.00, [4] 230, [7] 4.00 (extra mat 27 Dec. 2.30), £9.50-£25. [40 mins.

MARTIN GUERRE

Broubil and Schemberg's munical.

Prince Edward Old Compton Street, W1
(0171-447 5400) - D Leie St, Mon-Sat 7.45,
15[7] 3400 (and 26 Dec, extra mat 27 Dec,
3.00), £16.50.£32.50. 150 mins. Officier: Guys And Della Richard Byre's production. More-Su 7,15pm, mats 26 & 31 Dec, 200pm, ents 29 Mar. 165 mins.

conflict. Trought, 7.-Stpm. consumming as asys-125 mms.
Cottesfor:
Blindad By The Sun Stephen Polishoff's scientific detective story stars Frances de la Bur and Graham Crowden. Kunght, 7.30pm. ends 28 Dec. 150 mms. Obvier: 512-52-50 Lyttlefor: 58-53. Cottesfor: 512-516. South Buols, London SEI 9PX. 122. 176. 2021. 0171-928 2252 ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY:

As You Like It Namh Cheach in Steven Finish's production of Statespears's medi-tation on lost minocence. Tomple, 7.15pm, in rep until 29 Mar. 195 mim. The Pix The White Davil John Webster's disturbing ly violent Jacobean thriller. Trought, 7.15pm, in rep until 29 Mar. 190 mass. Barbean Theatre: £6:£450. The Pr.: £10-£17. Silk Street, London ECCY 8DS. 0171-638 8891.

Fellini-Inspired proxical .

Dommar Warchouse Eartham Street, W.C.
(0171-369 1732) ◆ Lesc Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30,
[4][7] 3.00, cm/s 8 Mar. £12-£25, 120 mins. THE OFFICIAL TRIBUTE TO THE BILLES

Comic concert musical.

Apullo Shaftes Ave., W1 (0171-494 5070) ◆
Prec Circ. Mon-Thu Spin, Fri & Sat 6pm &
9pm, ends 18 Jan, £7.50 £25, 130 mins. OLD WICKED SONGS Jon Marian's drams, starring Bob Flockers. Gelgad Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-094 5065) & Fac Circ. Mon-Sat 730. [5] 2.30.

London Palladum Argell Street, W1 (0171-494 (020)\$038) ⊕ Oxford Circ. Mun-Sat 7.30, [487] 2.30 (estra mai 27, Dec. 2.30), 470-432-50, 150 mass

Graff Rhys Jones stars in Box Thirers' vunlige farce. Senor Strand, WC2 (0171-876 RRRR/No: 0171-836 0479) ◆ Charing X. Mon-Sat 7.30, [5][7] 2.30 (not 26 Dec, extra mat 27 Dec, 2.30), £10-£25, 1e0 mire.

Anthony Newley humbugs his way through the Dickensian Christmas musical. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 [0171-416 0001)
**Tottenham Court Road, Mon-Sat 7.30 (not 31 Dec. 1 Jan). [5][7] 3.00 (extra mass 27, 30, 31 Dec. 3 Jan, 3.00), ends 1 Feb. £5.50 £27.50.

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE - THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER The rock and roll hamakers celebrated in a musical netue that includes: Jailhouse Rock. Prince of Wales Covenay Surces, W1 (017)-839 5972) & Leicester Square, Mon Sat R.OU, [5][7] 3.00 (not 25 Dec, extra mat 27

Dec. 3,00), £15-£30, 135 mins. A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE Tennesse: Williams' tense drama stars Jessica Lange and Tithy Stephens.
Theatre Rosel Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930
8810)
Paccadelly Circus. Mon. Sat 7.45 (30 Dec. 7.00), [5][7] 3.00 (not 26 Dec. extra mai 27 Dec, 3.00), £10-£30.

heat of the moment, page 20

THURSDAY 26 DECEMBER 1996 . THE INDEPENDENT

England regroup as Lloyd lets off steam

Cricket

DEREK PRINGLE reports from Harare

It may not feel like the season of goodwill, and Harare is the last place on earth you would expect to see a White Christmas. but that is no excuse for England to play humbug, particu-larly their coach, David Lloyd, whose latest gaffe was to get involved in a verbal altercation with Ian Goggen, the chairman of the Mashonaland Cricket Association who is an official from the Zimbabwe cricket union. immediately after last Sunday's dramatic finish.

The incident, described in a local paper as "an exchange of words," was heated enough to have been brought to the attention of Hanumant Singh, the match referee. In a statement issued yesterday, Singh de-cided that no further action would be taken, indicating that the matter had been resolved. quickly and amicably.

It is a view unlikely to be taken at face value by the barnstorming new chairman of the England Cricket Board, Lord MacLaurin, who arrives here on Friday. MacLaurin, who has already stated his desire for English cricket to become a more consumer friendly product, is unlikely to have been impressed by this latest indiscretion and will hopefully seek an explanation from Lloyd, who is barred from commenting about it by ICC regulations.

For a series that was meant to be gift-wrapped, it has cer-tainly been a frustrating time for England, who now have five days to salvage something other than ignominy from this tour. It will not be easy, not least every night so far, Harare has been lit up like Dracula's cas-



The England coach, David Lloyd, directs the groundstaff as they prepare the nets for yesterday's training session for the Second Test which starts in Harare this morning Photograph: Chris Turvey/Empics

The pitch, should saturated irrespective of the final balance a side whose coach remains con-outfields prove playable, will be of the attack. slow, and will probably offer some early assistance to the seam bowlers. Unless they drop Phil Tufnell, England's response wood with Craig White, who despite not having bowled a ball

This gives England an extra batsman to bat at seven behind the six that played in Bulawayo, leaving them - if Tufnell plays - with just two and a half seam bowlets, a risky gambit considering that White has yet to

murdered the opposition," last week, the combination smacks of must-not-lose defensiveness.

It is also flawed and should England bowl first without Silverwood in the side, there will be no one to probe that full

on a slow seamer. Instead an un-varying diet of Mullally, Gough and White will prevail, bowlers who all prefer to hit the pitch short of a length, a method that provided a rich source of runs for Zimbabwe's top order in the

Having derived far more

the last Test. Zimbabwe are still likely to make changes and the left-hander Mark Dekker is certain to open the batting in place of Stuart Carlisle, who looked hopelessly out of his depth. Unless Eddo Brandes, who damaged his ankle last week, is fit, the bowling will

unless water gets under the

festive season trying to fit in practice between thunderstorms, there is now a Test match to be won. However, before the plotting starts, they may like to consider the ghosts of England tours past.

Since the Boxing Day Test 10 ears ago, when Mike Gatting's ngland last won the Ashes their record abroad has been appalling. In 42 overseas Tests, incinding last Sunday's thrilling draw, England have won only five. Evidence that, away from home at least, we don't tend to 'flippin' murder" anyone.

Ferguson puts Pearce to the test

Even allowing for a Boxing Day tradition which dictates that the form book goes out of the window, the odds are stacked against the Premiership's newest manager when he pits his wits against his longestserving counterpart today.

Stuart Pearce is the self-confessed novice taking his second guson the canny veteran preof Manchester United, Forest lie bottom of the table; United. who have won the last two meetings 5-0 and 4-1, harbour hopes of retaining their championship.

Pearce has until the end of next month to decide whether he wants the job permanently. He surprised many people, in-cluding Arsène Wenger, one suspects, with his approach to Saturday's victory over Arsenal. If the fist-shaking and exhor- again Andy Cole against his tations were entirely pre- home-town team, Pearce may

the imaginative changes in formation and per-This afternoon's game will, if

of his tactical acumen. Colin Cooper might be deputed to do the marking job on Eric Cantona that he did so successfully on Paul Merson, though with Ferguson forewarned, "Psycho" may have to come up with fresh strategies. And as if managing the relegation favourites was not game as caretaker manager of Nottingham Forest, Alex Fer-and will doubtless hope Ryan Giggs sticks to the opposite

United are equally desperate for the points. They must avoid losing touch with the teams above them (although the way they came from being 10 points behind Newcastle at the half way stage last season offers encouragement to all) and to confirm that the 5-0 rout of Sunderland really did represent a return to their best.

While the United manager has the option of recalling a fitbe tempted to start with the onloan Nigel Clough — who could well become his assistant — in place of Bryan Roy. If that happens and Forest win, it would be a rare instance of a Manchester City player tasting victory over United: Boxing Day magic gone mad.

Because of the demands of television, leaders Liverpool will have played four times in 10 days before New Year's Day is over; likewise Newcastle. But strenuous as the "holiday" schedule is, it offers teams the chance to build momentum accumulation of points.

Liverpool must be confident of maintaining their three-point advantage against Leicester at Anfield Coincidentally, the clubs met at Filbert Street two years ago today. Of the Leicester lineup that day - which was early in the Mark McGhee era — only Simon Grayson and Mick Whitlow remains. Revealingly, the Liverpool side this afternoon would have been virtually identical but for the departures of Ian Rush and John Scales.

Monsieur Wenger, having been outwitted by Pearce, now comes up against David Pleat, a seasoned practitioner in games of cat and mouse, when second-placed Arsenal visit Sheffield Wednesday this evening. By co-incidence, The Italian Job will be advertising the virtues of the Mini on television as Pleat's clever mini striker from Internazionale, Benito Carbone, attempts to perform one on a defence that will in-

clude Tony Adams after sus-

The West London Azzurri, pressed to give their followers a belated "Buon Natale" at Aston Villa: Ruud Gullit's side have looked a soft touch on their travels whereas Villa's title odds have been slashed from 33-1 to 8-1 after five successive wins. The 5-0 walloping of Wimbledon was only the second time they have scored more than twice in a match all season, so Brian Little must be looking to Savo Milosevic to prove that Sunday was not simply a glorious aberration.

sweet memories for Chelsea, who surrendered a winning position in an FA Cup semi-final ed last spring, imagine what to Blackburn is likely to un-Park on Easter Monday that one Geordie, Rovers' Graham Fenton, scored twice in the last four minutes to provoke an outbreak of highly public blubbering among thousands of

Newcastle's defeat that night pionship would go to Old Traf-ford, but this time Blackburn's other Tynesider, Alan Shearer, is in their colours. Only the most mean-spirited of his once-adoring public will not give the England captain a warm welcome, though the same may not be true of Gary McAllister's return with Coventry to Leeds, whose fans made it clear that they felt their former captain had betrayed them when the Also going back, to Mid-

If Villa Park holds bitter- dlesbrough, is Everton's Nick Barmby. His old colleagues run now stands at 12 matches and were accused of behaving like a pub team after pulling out of last weekend's fixture at Blackburn. The casualty list at the Riverside is so lengthy that those ghosts of Boxing Day past, Bryan Robson (40 in January) and Viv Anderson (40 already), have put themselves on

> Meanwhile, Wimbledon have the perfect opportunity to launch another undefeated se-West Ham, who have not won in nine games. In the unlikely event of the Dons sulking over the end of their four-month run they may care to reflect on the state they were in going into their Boxing Day match 12 months ago.
>
> Lying third from bottom after 14 Premiership games with-

out a win, they triumphed 2-1 at Chelsea despite having Vinnie Jones sent off. Suddenly third from top and one defeat

Aberdeen's chance to overhaul Celtic

With the battle for honours in Scotland looking increasingly like a contest for second place, Celtic's visit to Aberdeen today could be crucial.

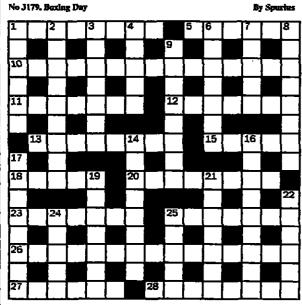
Rangers are 14 points clear at the top of the table, but second-placed Celtic have Aberdeen breathing down their necks only a point behind. Aberdeen, however, have not beaten Celtic since last April and today they will again be without the suspended Stewart McKim-

Celtic have Paolo Di Canio cent suspension, while Jackie McNamara has an outside chance of returning from injury. Andreas Thom is a slight doubt, but Pierre Van Hooydonk could

ames since facing Rangers on 4 November. Rangers, who are at home to

Raith Rovers, will expect to extend their excellent Premier reads eight wins and one draw from nine games. Joechim Bjorkhand, Craig Moore and Peter Van Vossen rejoin the Rangers squad. Raith are seeking their first even Premier League win against the





ACROSS One going on foot across the prairie? (8)

Spinner beginning to play i team by mid-April (6) 10 Company of bowmen? (6,

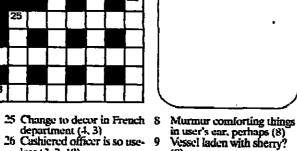
maybe after invasion by German guards (7) 12 Oppressive old tyrant confronting American (7) 13 Show of barefaced cheek,

11 Foreign legation wrecked

impounding a vehicle takes the biscuit (8) mals is put off (5)

18 Points made by new poems

20 Female Palace supporter. maybe (8) 23 Committee approve regis-



ess (3, 2, 10) 27 Memories evoked by city 14 Cause for special celebragardens (6) tion (8) 28 In company, unit of ther-mal insulation's given num-

Old weapon found by police crossing river (6) Insubstantial character has the support of the directors

Impossibility of recalling one seaman in choppy conditions (7)

Party consuming vermouth - time for same again (5)

16 Painter of landscapes done in oil, elaborately decorat-17 Version of a conte edited.

omitting middle part? (8) 19 Grab a bit? (7) 21 Entertainer who might be persuaded to give it a rest

Norwegian ready to take king's rook, one on right Hard to define the Socratic method." (5)
Not real kid? (7)

24 Fit for sporting event (5)
25 Small part in play didn't come to anything? (5) Wenger accuses Jerkan

DERRICK WHYTE

Arsène Wenger, the manager of Arsenal, has accused the Notingham Forest defender, Nikola Jerkan, of "cheating" during the incident which saw Ian Wright sent off at the City Ground last Saturday.

Arsenal's leading scorer was show the red card after the Croatian defender fell to the ground following an off-the-ball clash between the two men. Jerkan claimed that his shin had been raked by Wright's studs.

Wright, who has vehemently denied the accusation, now faces a three-match ban, but the refcree, Steve Lodge, who admits he did not see the incident but acted on linesman John Holbrook's advice, has promised to look at a video recording.

Arsenal, via the Football Association, have also sent a copy of the film to Holbrook, with Wenger explaining: "I cannot think that the linesman had a good view of it at the time. "But it is obvious from the

film that Jerkan was cheating. I agree Ian Wright might have acted provocatively and I know that we have to adjust our ways to make sure we keep 11 players on the field. "But the reaction by Jerkan

to anything that Wright did was ridiculous. I think the video makes it perfectly clear and I think the matter should be judged on that evidence.

"Jerkan had already been shown a yellow card in the game before he deliberately obstructed Ian Wright, which should have produced another yellow card. Instead, just 20 seconds later we had our player

sent off instead. "What Jerkan did is some-thing for which foreign players have a bad reputation. Speak-ing generally, I think an English player would not act like that but foreigners are bringing bad things as well as good things to

the game here."
Unless the referee changes his mind, Wright's sending-off will carry a three-match ban beginning with Arsenal's FA Cup tie against Sunderland. Even if the red card is commuted to yellow it will still take him beyond the FA's 21-points disciplinary barrier and land him with a two-

match suspension.
Middlesbrough could also be in trouble with football's authorities after pulling out of their match at Blackburn last week because they had 23 play-ers unavailable through injuries and illness. They did so without the Premier League's permission and must appear before a League commission on 14 Jan-uary. They could be fined and have points deducted.

Meanwhile Bryan Robson, Middlesbrough's manager, has responded to criticisms by his Italian striker, Fabrizio Ravanelli, of training facilities and

miership. Ravanelli, whose remarks were made on Italian television, claimed he was forced to train on his own at Middlesbrough using charts supplied by his former club, Juventus.

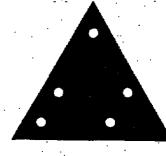
Robson said: "Ravanelli trained on his own when he stayed behind during our preseason tours but he does not train on his own now." Robson also said that match preparations were different by necessity in England compared to those in Italy. He pointed out that English teams face a demanding fixture programme whereas Italian teams generally play

only on Sundays.

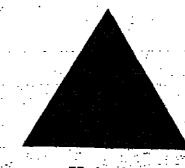
Walsall are to study an FA report into last week's Turf Moor floodlight failure before deciding whether to seek compensation. Walsall were leading 1-0 in the FA Cup second round replay at Burnley a week ago when the lights went out during halftime, forcing the match to be abandoned. Walsall lost the re-

played match on Monday. Sunderland are close to con-cluding a £400,000 deal with Zeytinburnu for the purchase of the Turkish club's Senegalese striker, Mamadou Diallo. Norwich City have completed the signing of Matthew Jackson from Everton for £450,000, while the Portsmouth striker, Deon Burton, has joined Cardiff City on a month's loan. Sunderland success, page 19 return after missing three

John Robertson will be looking for his 200th Scottish they travel to Dunfermline The home side will be aiming to extend the remarkable run which has lifted them to fourth in the table.



Turkey, broken fairy lights, relatives, turkey, chitty chitty, bang bang, relatives.



Yo-ho-ho.,



BEST SELLING PREMIUM CASK ALE SINCE 1777

OPublished by Newspaper Publishing PLC, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145DL, and printed at Mirror Colour Print, St